

Arthur Miall

18 Bouverie Street E.C.

THE Nonconformist.

"THE DISSIDENCE OF DISSENT AND THE PROTESTANTISM OF THE PROTESTANT RELIGION."

VOL. XXIV.—NEW SERIES, No. 972.]

LONDON: WEDNESDAY, JUNE 15, 1864.

PRICE { UNSTAMPED .. 5d.
STAMPED 6d.

CHURCH-RATES in NEW PARISHES.—

At a Meeting of the Committee appointed to take steps to prevent the levying of Church-rates in new parishes, held June 13th, 1864, it was

RESOLVED:—

"1. That, believing that the passing of the Church Building and New Parishes Acts Amendment Bill, as introduced by her Majesty's Government, would have had the effect of facilitating the extension of Church-rates in newly-created parishes, this Committee expresses satisfaction at the abandonment of the measure, and congratulates the opponents of Church-rates on the result of their efforts to avert that issue."

"2. That as the provisions of the Church Building Acts, in respect to the levying of Church-rates, are at present the subject of proceedings before the Judicial Committee of the Privy Council, this Committee resolves to continue in existence, for the purpose of adopting such further measures as may be called for by the result of such proceedings, or as may be deemed expedient in a future Session of Parliament."

J. CARVELL WILLIAMS, } Secretaries.
CHAS. SHEPHEARD, }

2, Serjeants'-inn, Fleet-street.

NEW CONGREGATIONAL CHAPEL, GLOUCESTER-STREET, WEYMOUTH. OPENING SERVICES.

The above CHAPEL will be OPENED (D.V.), on WEDNESDAY, June 22nd, 1864, the Rev. DAVID THOMAS, of Bristol, Chairman-Elect of the Congregational Union, will preach in the Morning. Service to commence at Eleven o'clock. The Rev. HENRY ALLON, of Islington, Chairman of the Congregational Union, will preach in the Evening, at Seven o'clock.

A Cold Collation will be provided after the Morning Service. Tea at Five o'clock in the school-room beneath the Chapel. Tickets for Dinner and Tea, 3s., and for Tea only, 1s. each.

On SUNDAY, June 26th, 1864, TWO SERMONS will be preached: that in the Morning by the Rev. R. ASHTON, of London, Secretary of the Congregational Union; that in the Evening by the Rev. R. S. ASHTON, B.A., Pastor of the Church.

Services to commence at Eleven and half-past Six o'clock respectively.

Collections will be made after each Service on behalf of the Building Fund.

NEW COLLEGE, LONDON.

The FOURTEENTH ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING will be held at the COLLEGE, FINCHLEY NEW ROAD, on TUESDAY, June 28th, at One o'clock, the Rev. Dr. SPENCE in the Chair. One of the Senior Students will read an Essay on "Blaise Pascal." The Certificates of Honour obtained in the Examinations of the year, and the Presents of Books from the Selwyn Fund to Students leaving the College, will be distributed by the Chairman, who will also deliver an address to the Students.

The attendance of Subscribers and Friends of the College is respectfully invited.

W. FARRER, LL.B., Secretary.

ALBERTLAND, NEW ZEALAND. SPECIAL SETTLEMENT ASSOCIATION.

A communication having been received from New Zealand, to the effect that the FREE LAND GRANTS are likely to cease in the coming Autumn, persons desirous of securing THE 40-ACRE LAND GRANT, AT ALBERTLAND, are informed that these can only be obtained through the above Association.

For further particulars, apply pre-paid to JOHN BRAME, Jun., 1, Ely-place, Holborn, London, E.C.

SHIPS SAIL EVERY MONTH.

A large party is organising for August next, to be accompanied by Mr. J. BRAME, the General Manager of the Association.

ROYAL POLYTECHNIC.

Patron: His Royal Highness the Prince of WALES.

Daily at Four and Nine, Mr. George Buckland's New Romantic and Musical Entertainment of Amy Robart, Queen Elizabeth, and the Pageant of Kenilworth.—The tragic death of Amy Robart.—The Tableau of Queen Elizabeth receiving Shakespeare's Works, are shown with the Ghost apparatus (John Henry Pepper and Henry Dicks, joint inventors). Professor's Pepper's New Ghost Lecture daily at a Quarter to Three and a Quarter to Eight. Admission to the whole, 1s. Open Twelve to Five, and Seven to Ten. Saturday mornings, 2s. 6d.

HAMPSTEAD HEATH.

—Lovely Views, Dry Sandy Sub-soil. Railway-station to Fenchurch-street, with cabs and omnibuses near at hand. Good cooking, wines, stabling, and well-aired beds, all at moderate prices. The Hotel in the Vale of Health is sheltered from northerly winds, though 444 feet above the Thames. Families wishing to take Lodgings or Furnished Houses for the season, can also be supplied with wines, plate, and linen, on application to the Housekeeper at the Hotel.

THE VALE of HEALTH
SUMMER REFRESHMENT HALL and GARDENS
will entertain 2,000 persons at any moment. Teas, 9d.; cold dinners, with salad, 1s. 6d.; hot dinners from the joint, 2s. 6d., including bread, vegetables, &c.

THE GARDENS attached to the HOTEL
in the VALE of HEALTH, HAMPSTEAD, have a department specially arranged for such Schools and Societies as prefer a reservation of premises, where none but Teas, Ices, Cooling Drinks, with other refreshments of an unobnoxious nature, are supplied. References may be made to Ministers, Churchwardens, Deacons, and others who have already used the grounds. Special contracts given for large numbers on application to the manager, R. Booth.

TO PARENTS and GUARDIANS.—Messrs. ANTHONY and SON, Pharmaceutical Chemists, 48, High-street, Bedford, have a VACANCY for a well-educated YOUTH, as an APPRENTICE.

For terms, &c., apply as above. References given and required.

TO DRAPERS' ASSISTANTS.—WANTED,

A YOUNG MAN, about Twenty or Twenty-one, one used to a COUNTRY TRADE, and who has a knowledge of Ready-mades. A Christian "Noncon" preferred.

Apply, stating age, salary, reference, &c., to J. Crawley, Prittlewell, Essex.

DISPENSING ASSISTANT for INDIA.—

WANTED, an Active CHRISTIAN MAN, a member of a Baptist Church preferred, fully up to his work, and willing to work hard, understanding accounts, and, if required, capable of managing a business. An agreement, on a liberal salary, would be made for Six Years, and overland passage out paid.

Apply, with all needful particulars, to Mr. J. Haddon, 3, Bouverie-street, London, E.C., who will answer any inquiries.

MILL-HILL SCHOOL.

A PUBLIC DINNER of OLD MILL-HILL SCHOLARS will take place at "THE SHIP," GREENWICH, on WEDNESDAY, June 22nd. Dinner on Table at Half-past Six o'clock precisely. Tickets, Twenty-one Shillings each, including wine.

LIST OF STWARDS.

E. J. Carter, Esq.	Thos. Scrutton, jun., Esq.
Charles F. Foster, Esq.	James Scrutton, Esq.
H. Henderson, Esq.	Alex. Scrutton, Esq.
J. Henderson, Esq.	John Seymour, Esq.
A. Holborn, Esq., M.A.	Wm. Seymour, Esq.
P. G. Ibbotson, Esq.	W. Lepard Smith, Esq.
James Laby, Esq.	H. Spicer, jun., Esq.
Henry Marten, Esq.	J. R. Spicer, Esq.
Ebenezer Fyemsmith, Esq.	F. G. Trestrall, Esq.

Gentlemen who have not received a Circular intimating the above, are requested to apply to the Hon. Sec. as under, of whom also Tickets may be obtained.

WM. GAGE SPICER,
19, New Bridge-street, E.C.

EDUCATION.—Mrs. FLOWER, wife of the Rev. JOHN FLOWER, of Beccles, Suffolk, wishes to RECEIVE Five or Six YOUNG LADIES, as BOARDERS, after the Midsummer Vacation, who will enjoy the advantage of a superior education with the comfort of a Christian home. Mrs. Flower has had experience in teaching for several years with the most favourable results; but owing to the claims of her own family could not receive boarders, which she is now at liberty to do.

The air of Beccles is highly salubrious from its contiguity to the German Ocean, and the school residence is commodious. The services of distinguished Professors are available in Music, German, &c. The journey from London is now performed in three hours.

Terms, including French, Thirty Guineas.
To commence on the 29th of July.

EDUCATION.—SOUTH COAST.

HEATHFIELD HOUSE, PARKSTONE
(Midway between Poole and Bournemouth).

The Rev. WALTER GILL will have a FEW VACANCIES after Midsummer, and will be happy to furnish Prospectuses on application. Terms moderate. References to Parents of Pupils.

School Duties will RE-COMMENCE (D.V.) on THURSDAY, July 28th.

TOTTERIDGE-PARK SCHOOL, NORTH LONDON.

There will be several VACANCIES after the MIDSUMMER RECESS.

The SPEECH-DAY is fixed for June 16th; the Hon. HENRY COWPER, President.

P.S.—TWO CHRISTIAN GENTLEMEN will be required after Midsummer; one for the UPPER ENGLISH DESK, the other for WRITING and DRAWING.

BRAINTREE, ESSEX.

MISS CARTER RECEIVES a LIMITED NUMBER of YOUNG LADIES to BOARD and EDUCATE at the RESIDENCE of her FATHER, the Rev. JOHN CARTER. The Course of instruction comprises the usual branches of an English Education, with Music (Piano), Singing, Dancing, Drawing, the Latin, French, German, and Italian Languages, and the daily practice of Exercises for the Improvement of the Figure. More than an acre of Pleasure Ground appropriated to the use of the Pupils.

Terms—Thirty to Thirty-five Guineas per Annum, according to Age and Requirements. Efficient Masters in attendance.

The PUPILS will RE-ASSEMBLE on MONDAY, July 25th.

Miss Carter intends visiting London in July, and will be happy to call on any Friends who may wish to place Pupils under her care.

EDUCATION at CHRISTCHURCH.

The Rev. JOSEPH FLETCHER, assisted by a Graduate of the University of London, and by Native Professors of the French and German Languages, receives a LIMITED NUMBER of PUPILS into his family to EDUCATE.

Individual attention to each Pupil is combined with Class Competition.

Pupils are prepared for Commercial life, for the Professions, or for the Universities.

Next Session commences AUGUST 1st. Prospectuses forwarded on application as below.

Hengistbury House, Christchurch, Hants.

HURST-COURT COLLEGE, HASTINGS.

DR. MARTIN REED, formerly of Dover, has selected one of the finest sites round Hastings for the erection of a Mansion designed throughout as a First-class EDUCATIONAL ESTABLISHMENT.

Full particulars of both Preparatory and Senior Classes will be furnished on application.

EDUCATION for YOUNG LADIES, LANSDOWNE HOUSE, LONDON-ROAD, LEICESTER.

(Situation high and healthy, at the outskirts of the town.)

Conducted by the Misses MIALL, assisted by Professors, and French and English Resident Governesses.—A thoroughly solid English education, under the immediate superintendence of the Principals; with all the necessary accomplishments—French, German, Latin, Music, Singing, Drawing, &c. Occasional Scientific Lectures from Professors. Special attention given to moral and religious training; and the comforts and advantages of a refined home provided.

References to the parents of the pupils.

HOME SCHOOL for YOUNG GENTLEMEN, Mount Pleasant, Nailsworth, near Stroud, Gloucestershire. Principals—Mr. and Mrs. J. RUSSELL.

LEONARD. Prospectuses, with Terms and References, on application.

COMMERCIAL SCHOOL, CRANFORD

HALL, near HOUNSLOW, is conducted with special regard to the requirements of the Sons of respectable Tradesmen and Farmers.

Mr. VERNEY is assisted by experienced resident Teachers—English and Foreign. The Pupils are carefully trained in good habits, and fitted for active Business Pursuits. The premises are extensive, and contain every convenience; the situation is high and healthy; the food is of the best description and unlimited; and the terms are moderate.

A Prospectus forwarded upon application; and Pupils admitted at any time.

FORSYTH'S TEMPERANCE HOTELS.—

FORSYTH'S "COBDEN" HOTEL, 87, ARGYLE-STREET, GLASGOW, Central, Elegantly Furnished, Commodious, and Perfectly Ventilated. Also FORSYTH'S HOTEL, ABERDEEN.

LONDON.—SHIRLEY'S TEMPERANCE

HOTEL,

37, QUEEN'S-SQUARE, BLOOMSBURY, W.C.

Beds from 1s. 6d.; PLAIN BREAKFAST or TEA, 1s.

The above house is well and centrally situated. There is a spacious Coffee-room overlooking the Square; it is within Five Minutes' Walk of Holborn, and near the Inns of Court, British Museum, St. Paul's, &c.; and admirably suited for parties, either on pleasure or business.

CARLISLE HOUSE.

PORTER AND MIALL.

PRIVATE BOARDING HOUSE,

26, Carlisle-terrace, Foxley-road, Kensington.

Within easy distance of Railway Communication to all parts.

BOARDING SCHOOL for TRADESMEN'S

SONS, ROCHFORD, ESSEX.

Principal—Mr. GEORGE FOSTER.

Terms, 20l. per annum. Circulars at Messrs. Mead and Powell's, 73, Cheapside.

N.B. Preparatory Department at Forest-hill

STATIONERY, PRINTING, ACCOUNT

BOOKS, and every requisite for the Counting-house. Qualities and prices will compare advantageously with any house in the trade. ASH and FLINT, 49, Fleet-street, City, E.C., and opposite the Railway Stations, London-bridge, S.E.

GENERAL ASSURANCE COMPANY,

62, KING WILLIAM-STREET, LONDON, E.C.

ESTABLISHED 1837.

CAPITAL, ONE MILLION.

FIRE DEPARTMENT.

The MIDSUMMER FIRE RENEWAL RECEIPTS are now ready, and may be had on application at the Head Office of the Company, or of any of its Agents throughout the country.

STOCK IN TRADE, Machinery, Fixtures, Implements, and Utensils in Trade, Merchandise, &c., &c., charged only the Reduced Duty of 1s. 6d. per cent.

FURNITURE in first-class houses insured in one sum without classification of risk, at 2s. per cent.

TRANSFERS from other offices effected without expense to the Assured.

SETTLEMENTS for Losses prompt and liberal.

LIFE DEPARTMENT.

BONUS IN 1863.

A bonus of 22 per cent., equal to a reversionary bonus of 40 per cent., according to the age of the assured, was declared in May, 1863.

RESERVE FUND.

The Life Reserve Fund in hand is upwards of six times amount of the Annual Life Income. The assured are entirely free from responsibility and the mutual liabilities of partnership.

INCOME OF THE COMPANY.

The Income of the Company has reached One Hundred Thousand Pounds per annum.

THOMAS PRICE, Secretary.



NEWSPAPER

NATIONAL HOSPITAL for the PARALYSED and EPILEPTIC, QUEEN-SQUARE, BLOOMSBURY.

Treasurer—Marquis TOWNSHEND.
Chairman—Alderman HALE.

SPECIAL AND URGENT APPEAL.

The Board of Management most earnestly solicit further AID, as, owing to the increased number of Applicants, their present resources can only provide for a limited proportion of the sufferers. Epilepsy is undoubtedly the direct of human afflictions, as it incapacitates its victims from any employment. Paralysis may be described as a life-long martyrdom. Additional wards have been furnished, and did the funds permit, the patients could at once be received.

Bankers—Coutts and Co., Strand; Union Bank, City.
E. H. CHANDLER, Hon. Sec.
GEORGE REID, Secretary.

BRITISH EMPIRE MUTUAL LIFE ASSURANCE COMPANY.

Annual Income	£74,660
Profits Declared	145,389
Claims Paid	183,470
Accumulated Premium Fund	£74,631

The Triennial Division has just been made, which gives a CASH BONUS OF 24 PER CENT.

The following are specimens of Reversionary Bonuses:—

Age when Assured.	No. of Premiums Paid.	Amount Assured.	Total Premiums Paid.	Amount Reversionary Bonuses.	Amount Payable at Death, including Bonuses.
43	15	500	£ 196 11 3	£ 98 9 2	£ 596 9 2
24	16	600	£ 203 4 0	£ 107 14 6	£ 707 14 6
35	17	600	£ 235 8 4	£ 105 17 2	£ 605 17 2
48	17	600	£ 354 1 3	£ 130 17 0	£ 630 17 0
38	15	1,000	£ 343 15 0	£ 180 3 11	£ 1,180 3 11
32	17	300	£ 133 13 8	£ 60 10 0	£ 360 10 0
29	16	500	£ 188 0 0	£ 94 10 9	£ 594 10 9
38	17	800	£ 168 17 0	£ 85 11 3	£ 985 11 3

Prospectuses and all needful information may be obtained on application to

ALFRED LENCH SAUL, Secretary.
32, New Bridge-street, London, E.C.

THE READING IRON WORKS, [LIMITED.]

(LATE Messrs. BARRETT, EXALL, and ANDREWS.)

Incorporated under the Companies Act, 1862.

CAPITAL £200,000, in 10,000 SHARES of £20 EACH.
First Issue 5,000 Shares.

41 per Share to be paid on Application, and £3 per Share on Allotment.

Calls not to exceed £2 per Share, at intervals of not less than Two Months. Interest at the rate of 5 per cent. per annum will be allowed on all Calls paid in advance.

DIRECTORS.

Adolphus Simonds, Esq., Ivy Lodge, and Bridge-street, Reading, Chairman.

C. J. Andrews, Esq., Greyfriar's House, and Kategrove, Reading.

Richard Attenborough, Esq., Whitley Grove, Reading.

Joseph Crockett, Esq., Victoria-square, Reading (Director of the North Wilts Banking Company).

Wm. Exall, Esq., Castle-street, and Kategrove, Reading (Civil Engineer).

Walter May, Esq., Tilehurst, Reading.

John Simonds Esq. (J. and C. Simonds and Co.), Newlands, Berks, and Reading (Banker).

James W. Silverthorne, Esq., 43, Rensley-square, Brighton. With power to add to their number.

BANKERS.

READING—Messrs. J. and C. Simonds and Co.

LONDON—Messrs. Fuller, Banbury, and Co., Lombard-street.

SOLICITOR.

Charles P. Froom, Esq., 35, Lincoln's-inn-fields, London.

BROKERS.

Messrs. Sandeman and Dobree, 2, Royal Exchange-buildings, City.

AUDITOR.

Mr. Stephen Fulbrook, Manager of Messrs. Simonds' Bank, Reading.

SECRETARIES.

Mr. Thomas James (Accountant and Financier of late Firm), Kategrove, Reading.

Mr. Chas. Barber (pro tem.), 17, Abchurch-lane, London, E.C.

OFFICES.

Reading: The Works, Kategrove,
London: 17, Abchurch-lane, City, E.C.

Prospectuses and Forms of Application for Shares may be had of the Bankers, Brokers, Solicitor, and Secretary at the Offices of the Company, in London or Reading. Each application must be accompanied with a deposit of 20s. per share. The Articles of Association may be inspected at the offices of the Solicitor, 35, Lincoln's-inn-fields, London.

THE DIRECTORS of the READING IRON WORKS (LIMITED) HEREBY GIVE NOTICE, that the SHARE LIST will CLOSE, for London on WEDNESDAY, June 16, and for the Country on SATURDAY, June 18, and that they will proceed to allot the Shares on TUESDAY, June 21. They would further observe that they have arranged to enter upon the business on June 24, or as early thereafter as possible. They are happy in being able to announce that about 4,000 Shares are already agreed to be taken, and would therefore suggest that immediate application be made for the remaining 1,000.

By order of the Board,

THOMAS JAMES, Secretary.

Offices—Kategrove, Reading,
June 4, 1864.

DEBENTURES at 5, 5½, and 6 PER CENT.—The CEYLON COMPANY, LIMITED.

DIRECTORS.

Lawford Acland, Esq., Chairman.
Major-General Henry Pelham Barn.

Harry George Gordon, Esq. | Stephen P. Kennard, Esq.
George Ireland, Esq. | Patrick F. Robertson, Esq.
Duncan James Kay, Esq. | Robert Smith, Esq.

MANAGER—C. J. Braine, Esq.

The Directors are prepared to issue Debentures for one, three, and five years, at 5, 5½, and 6 per cent. respectively; they are also prepared to invest Money on Mortgage in Ceylon and Mauritius, either with or without the guarantee of the Company, as may be arranged.

Applications for particulars to be made at the Offices of the Company, No. 12, Leadenhall-street, London, E.C.

(By order) JOHN ANDERSON, Secretary.

COLMAN'S GENUINE MUSTARD.

TRADE MARK.

On each



THE BULL'S HEAD,

Package.

At the Great Exhibition, 1862,

OBTAINED THE

ONLY PRIZE MEDAL

For "Purity and Excellence of Quality."

Sold by all Grocers, Druggists, &c., throughout the United Kingdom.

J. and J. COLMAN, 26, Cannon-street, London, E.C.

THE SARDINIAN COMPANY (Limited).

Incorporated under the Companies' Act, 1862.

CAPITAL, £100,000, in 4,000 SHARES of £20 each.

£1 on Application, and £4 on Allotment.

One-half of the capital has already been subscribed.

DIRECTORS.

B. Fabbriotti, Esq. (Fabbriotti Brothers, Leghorn, London, and New York).

Wm. Lafaux, Esq., Llanidloes, Montgomeryshire (Director of Mid-Wales Railway Company).

Henry Lind, Esq., 19, Kensington-square, London.

G. Semenza, Esq., 35, Old Broad-street (Concessionaire of Royal Sardinian Railway).

J. Mackrill Smith, Esq. (Mackrill Smith and Co.), Old Broad-street, London.

SOLICITORS.

Messrs. Ashurst, Morris, and Co., Old Jewry.

BANKERS.

The Consolidated Bank.

SECRETARY (PRO TEM).

J. T. Wood, Esq.

OFFICES.

35, Old Broad-street, London, E.C.

This Company has been formed for the purpose of developing the resources of the rich and fertile island of Sardinia, which is now about to be intersected by railways.

Sardinia produces all the staples of a semi-tropical climate, viz.: cotton, tobacco, fruits, wines, and grain of every description; the cultivation of which, with the aid of capital, modern implements, and machinery, might be increased to an immense extent.

The mineral wealth of Sardinia is proverbial, and extensive lead and coal mines are now being worked on most profitable terms.

The shares in the "Monte Ponì" Mine now sell at forty times their original cost.

Most of the Directors in this Company are known to be well acquainted with the resources and capabilities of Sardinia, and the Company will have the benefit of their judgment and experience in conducting its operations. It may be stated generally that—

General trading, land and mining operations, will form important branches of the Company's business, and the Directors have already provisionally secured (subject to confirmation by a meeting of Shareholders, to be held as soon as convenient after the allotment of shares) some valuable properties with great capabilities, together with the services of a thoroughly efficient staff, which will be under the direction of a gentleman having the experience of many years' trading and residence in the island.

Markets for Produce would be found not only in Italy, France, and England, but in every Asiatic and African port in the Mediterranean.

Distance from London by railway to Marseilles, and thence by steamer, is only fifty hours; and by the existing Electric Telegraph, with its principal station at Cagliari (the chief port of the island), the Company's business would be under the control of the Board, and in communication with all the principal cities of Europe, and with Algeria, Egypt, &c.

It is not intended to call up more than £12 10s. per share, if so much. Should more capital be required, it will be raised by the issue of new shares or debentures as the shareholders may determine.

Prospectuses may be had at the Offices of the Company, or at the Consolidated Bank, No. 7, Fenchurch-street, London, on or before Wednesday, the 22nd June inst., on which day the list will be closed.

IMMEDIATE CASH ADVANCES.—Money

Lent on Personal Security, Leases, &c.

SUMS from 10l. to 300l. ADVANCED two or three days after application, for two years, one year, and six months (repayable by weekly, monthly, or quarterly instalments), and good bills discounted. Charges moderate, and strict confidence observed.

LONDON and PROVINCIAL LOAN COMPANY: Office, 297, Goswell-road, London. Office Hours, Nine till Four.

Forms of application and prospectus (gratis) on receipt of a stamped envelope.

H. FLEAR, Manager.

BEAUTIFUL HAIR.—CHURCHER'S

TOILET CREAM maintains its superiority for imparting richness, softness, and fragrance to the Hair, as well as being a most economical article. Price 1s., 1s. 6d., and 6s. Batchelor's Instantaneous Columbian Hair Dye is the best extant, 4s. 6d., 7s., and 14s. per packet. Sold by Hairdressers, and at R. HOVENDEKEN'S, No. 5, Great Marlborough-street, W.; and 93 and 95, City-road, E.C. N.B.—Wholesale warehouse for all Hairdressers' goods.

HAIR DYE! HAIR DYE! HAIR DYE!

GILLINGWATER'S ATRAPILATORY is the best Hair Dye in England. Grey, red, or rusty hair dyed instantly to a beautiful and natural brown or black without the least injury to hair or skin, and the ill effects of bad dyes remedied. Sold by all Chemists and Perfumers of repute, and by the Proprietor, W. Gillingwater, 353 (late 96), Goswell-road. Sent free to any railway station in the kingdom, in cases, 3s. 6d., 5s. 6d., and 10s. 6d. each. Beware of Counterfeits.

HAIR DESTROYER for removing super-

fluous hair on the face, neck, and arms. This real disfigurement! female beauty is effectually removed by this article, which is easily applied, and certain in effect. In Boxes, with directions for use, 3s. 6d. each. Sent free to any railway station, and may be had of Perfumers and Chemists, and of the proprietor, W. Gillingwater, 353 (late 96), Goswell-road. Sent free to any railway station. Beware of Counterfeits.

BALDNESS PREVENTED.—GILLING-

WATER'S QUININE POMADE prepared with cantharides restores the hair in all cases of sudden baldness, or bald patches where no visible signs of roots exist, and prevents the hair falling off. In bottles 3s. 6d. and 5s. 6d. each. May be had of all Chemists and Perfumers, and of the proprietor, W. Gillingwater, 353 (late 96), Goswell-road. Sent free to any railway station. Beware of Counterfeits.

KINAHAN'S LL WHISKY

VERSUS COGNAC BRANDY

This celebrated old IRISH WHISKY rivals the finest French brandy. It is pure, mild, mellow delicious, and very whole some. Sold in bottles, 3s. 8d. each, at most of the respectable retail houses in London; by the appointed agents in the principal towns in England; or wholesale at 8, Great Windmill-street, Haymarket, W. Observe the red seal, pink label and cork, branded "Kinahan's LL Whisky."

TRADE



MARK.

BROWN AND POLSON'S

PATENT CORN FLOUR

is much recommended

FOR CHILDREN'S DIET.

RECIPE FOR INFANTS' FOOD.—To one dessert-spoonful of Brown and Polson, mixed with a wine-glassful of cold water, add half-a pint of boiling water and a grain of salt; stir over the fire for five minutes; sweeten slightly; but if the infant is being brought up by hand, this food should then be mixed with milk—not otherwise, as the use of two different milks would be injurious.

WITH HARPER TWELVETREES' UNI-

VERSAL CLOTHES-WRINGER (IVES' PATENT)

LACE CURTAINS can be "done up" beautifully. No twisting and tearing and no mending required. Price 30s. with Cog-wheels. Carriage free from the Manufactory, Bromley-by-Bow, London, E. Active Canvassers wanted in every town.

MAKE YOUR OWN SOAP.

HARPER TWELVETREES' GLYCERINE

SOAP POWDER has triumphantly won its way into every home. It is a complete luxury for washing, is perfectly saponaceous, and possesses remarkable cleansing and nourishing properties. A week's washing for a small family may be accomplished in a few hours, saving one-half of soap, two-thirds of time, and three-fourths of labour. A penny packet will make one pound of strong glycerine washing soap. The weekly consumption of this popular article is considerably greater than the sale of all the other washing powders in the world. Patentees: Harper Twelvetrees, Bromley-by-Bow, London.

CHEMICAL ANALYSIS of HARPER

TWELVETREES' GLYCERINE SOAP POWDER:—

"Sir,—I have analysed your Glycerine Soap Powder, and have found it to be a compound of such materials as are used in the manufacture of soap, as described in your Royal Letters Patent of 22nd August, 1862. I have also analysed, at your desire, the contents of various packets made up by other makers in imitation of your Glycerine Soap Powder, which do not contain any of the properties of your soap-making powder; nor, on being dissolved in boiling water and afterwards allowed to cool, do they form a thick soapy paste, as with your preparation. FREDERICK VERSMANN, Consulting and Analytical Chemist."

"London, April 11, 1863."

Every packet of "Harper Twelvetrees' Glycerine Soap Powder" contains Harper Twelvetrees' signature. Sold in penny packets everywhere. Manufactory: Bromley-by-Bow, London, E.

THE LACE-DRESSER to Her MAJESTY

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THE Nonconformist.

"THE DISSIDENCE OF DISSENT AND THE PROTESTANTISM OF THE PROTESTANT RELIGION."

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Ecclesiastical Affairs.

A TIMELY RETREAT.

THE Attorney-General has withdrawn his Church-building Acts Consolidation and Amendment Bill. That he has been sorely disappointed we cannot doubt. He has spent much time and labour during two Sessions upon his measure, and has perhaps devoted to it some portion of his leisure during the vacations. He entered into his project *con amore*. His liking to it seems to have grown with its growth. He had resolved to stand by it against all opposition. We warned him, indeed, that he had taken up a position from the like of which stronger men than he had been driven, and we predicted for him a similar fate. He took no heed, but persevered. Well, he has become convinced, or, at any rate, the chief under whom he acts has, that success was doubtful, and, even if realised, would prove too costly. On Thursday last, therefore, he effected a timely retreat. We must do him the justice to say that he withdrew his Bill without any display of vindictiveness. Of course, he did his best to defend it logically—but practically he confessed himself beaten. Whether he will renew his attempt before another Parliament will perhaps depend mainly upon the character and disposition of the future House of Commons. For the present matters will remain where they are.

As it is no secret that the Attorney-General was compelled to evacuate his position by the strategy of the Church-rate Abolitionists, led on by the Liberation Society, it will not be out of place to make an observation or two vindictory of the course pursued by the latter. We avail ourselves, therefore, of the occasion, for more reasons than one, to point out the nature of the impulses which developed themselves into so determined an opposition.

Let not the members of the Endowed Church do Dissenters the injustice of supposing that the latter are or conceive themselves to be in the slightest degree interested in perpetuating obstacles to voluntary Church extension. They would willingly have co-operated in any suitable and equitable effort to remove them. They observe without displeasure, without a particle of jealousy, and, we may honestly add, with lively satisfaction, the increasing liberality of Churchmen in providing adequate church accommodation for our teeming population. They draw no secret comfort from the fact that the

zeal of the present generation is hampered, annoyed, and sometimes frustrated, by the bungling legislation of the past. They are quite willing that all the tangled underwood of fussy law which interposes difficulties between liberally disposed members of the Church of England and their pious intentions, should be cut away, and the ground left as free as the system will permit, for carrying into effect their desire to multiply places of worship. But they are not called upon by either good feeling or good sense to assist in furnishing facilities for the erection of churches to the repair of which, as well as to the expenses incident to the services in which, they will be compelled to contribute. They ask but one reasonable condition as the price of any assistance they may give in this matter. They require only a legal guarantee against being hereafter coerced into sharing the burdens which additional churches must entail. And this guarantee the political friends and representatives of the Endowed Church decline to give them. If, under these circumstances, they expect us to work with them, what do they take us for? Would they have acted differently towards us, if the tables had been turned? Their legal impediments remain simply because they do not choose to assure us that their removal shall not envelop us in a denser and more widely pervading atmosphere of compulsion. When they are ready to surrender the vexatious privilege of taxing us for their worship, we shall be ready to help them to more elbow room for the exercise of their Christian liberality. Nay, we do not even insist upon the abolition of Church-rates as a condition of our co-operation in releasing them from inconvenient restrictions. We demand only that the system of Church-rates shall not be extended thereby—and they have elected to reject that demand. They must take the consequences. They will have no simplification of Church-building Acts until they have learned to seek it in a spirit of equity.

But we had a more abundant justification in compelling the withdrawal of the Attorney-General's Bill. We have no desire to impugn the honesty of his motives; but, unquestionably, the practical effect of the passing of his measure, even if it had been one of simple consolidation, which it was not, would have been to give a legislative sanction to a gross breach of faith. Whatever ingenuity of special pleading may be resorted to by the advocates of the Church-rate system, there cannot be a doubt that most of the new parishes have been formed, and the new churches built, under the impression, on both sides, that Church-rates could not be legally levied in them. That such was the intention of the Legislature when it passed the Acts in question, can hardly be seriously denied in the face of the evidence which has been adduced to that effect. Mr. J. Carvell Williams, in a letter which we have inserted in another column, triumphantly disposes of the Attorney-General's attempt to involve this position in doubt. We need not add to his statement—it appears to us decisive. Indeed, it is only just recently that any attempt has been made to contravert the accuracy of the public impression. We cannot, of course, pretend to say how lawyers will settle the question litigated before them for the first time. We know not what sense may or may not be extracted from the bare words of a loosely-framed Act of Parliament. But this we say—that, should the Courts put an interpreta-

tion on them which the Legislature not only did not contemplate, but which it desired to exclude—an interpretation, moreover, the reverse of that under which the public have hitherto acted in the matter—it would have amounted to a fraud to pass a consolidating Bill, without providing for the rectification of this palpable effect. To have left the matter where it was, would have been simply to give the moral sanction of Parliament to a possibly successful attempt to oust its jurisdiction by a quibble. At any rate, we saw clearly enough that we were deliberately left face to face to battle in the law courts against a danger from which the Legislature meant to free us. We looked upon it as a piece of sharp practice, which, undoubtedly, it was, however unintentionally so on the part of the Attorney-General. We can stand a reasonable amount of bullying; but this was too much. We could not submit to see our confidence thus trifled with before our eyes. We resolved that it should not be, and that the screw should be turned again and again, if needful, even to the breaking up of the present Administration, rather than allow ourselves to be thus imposed upon. We hope the result will be a salutary warning for the future, against all who would make light of honourable understandings.

ECCLESIASTICAL NOTES.

We half doubt whether it is worth while to serve up to our readers a Dissenting dish offered to the subscribers to the *Saturday Review* in its last number. The writer who was lately so gratified in meeting with the biography of a Nonconformist minister, has had a new gratification given to him. The very weak and not at all conceited book, professing, under a thin mask, to be the autobiography of an unsuccessful preacher, which we reviewed in our columns a short time since, has reached his hands, and, as might be supposed, has been caught up and read with avidity. It furnishes the *Saturday* with a new text from which to speak of the vulgarity and ignorance of Dissenters. It is only desirable to repeat what this writer says, from the fact that his criticism will be read by a large number of men, and be accepted as truthful by many; and because it is sometimes worth while to know what enemies think of us. The cultivated readers of the *Saturday* will accept these criticisms for what they are worth, and no more. The spite both of the writer of the book reviewed and his reviewer will, we think, be so manifest that they will appreciate the characters of both at somewhere about their proper value, and they will probably think with us that the *Saturday* must be afflicted by an unusually exaggerated form of monomania with respect to Dissent, to take a single dip into what may be termed the Holywell-street literature of the ecclesiastical world. But as the *Saturday* tells all about the last French novels and their English imitations, it ought not, perhaps, to excite surprise that it seizes hold of ecclesiastical fictions of a similar character. There is dirt everywhere, and there are people who like it. There are other people who like to look for it and find it, to talk about and exaggerate the quantity they have found. Those who are fond of a special subject are apt, we know, to speak in superlative terms concerning it. There is "nothing like leather" to the shoemaker, and there is nothing like dirt to the dirty.

We will now tell the reader what are the *Saturday Review's* conclusions from reading "Frederick Rivers." It sees in this veracious book the honest struggles of a liberal minister, in those "lower strata of the middle classes" from which ministers are "manufactured." Mr. Rivers is accordingly a

martyr, and the *Saturday* sympathises with him. It tells his life, and informs its readers that the book which chronicles it contains, amongst other things, a good description of a Dissenting academy—"its pervading priggishness, its exceptional approximations to the good fellowship of undergraduate life, and its average amount of learning (or the opposite of learning)." Pervasively priggish and ignorant! This description comes rather *not appropos* after the report of the Public Schools Commissioners respecting Eton, Winchester, Harrow, Rugby, Westminster, &c., where, if we may believe our eyes, little education worth naming is at present to be obtained, and it is unfortunate in other respects. Dissenting colleges do not need our defence, and if they did we should not take up the cudgels for them against two writers of fiction. But it so happens that there are Churchmen of some character and position who have thought that in the very respect in which the reviewer and his author caricature them, they are worth the imitation of the Church. A hundred and odd years ago Churchmen sent pupils to Dr. Doddridge, and Orton tells us that the Doctor received letters from eminent divines of the Church, expressing their approbation of his plans as affording students intended for the ministry superior advantages for appearing with honour in the ministerial character. We do not believe that the relative superiority of the Nonconformist colleges has decreased since that period. It is only eleven years since the then Bishop of Durham expressed a somewhat similar opinion. "Our Dissenting brethren of the present day," said the Bishop, "are, greatly to their credit, sensible of the value and influence of knowledge as applied to the service of religion, and have become, many of them, not only entitled to the praise of lofty attainments, but also of a most proper anxiety to extend similar advantages to the youth with whom they are connected. The seminaries which they have founded are not only conducted by learned and able teachers, but are so entirely under such wise arrangements that they promise healthy and promising scholars. If, therefore, our own clergy are as assiduous as they ought to be in maintaining the superiority which they formerly possessed, or even desire to rank upon any point with theologians amongst Dissenters, they will feel it incumbent on them not to reject any opportunity for strengthening their minds, and extending the sphere of their knowledge." We do not believe the Nonconformist colleges to approach to anything like perfection; but we do believe that the capabilities of their professors, and the range of their education, will bear comparison with any similar seminaries in Europe. We know something too of their students, and the least we can say is, that "Frederick Rivers" is the only genuine and unadulterated "prig" which we have known a college to produce. Of course Mr. Rivers saw priggishness. Do not conceited men always think other people conceited?

Well, it follows, of course, that Mr. Bung and Mr. Lush are "average vulgarities," and that the "Church" of an ordinary Dissenting chapel "is about as informal in its reception of accusations and evidence, and as savage in its sentences, as the Star-Chamber or Inquisition of popular imagination, with the additional advantage of the profoundest ignorance of anything but the traditional 'Gospel.'" Then there is the usual novel hit at "spiritual cheesemongers and Evangelical auctioneers," and at "Stiggins and anti-Stiggins," ending with the prediction that "Miltonian theology" (what will Mr. Rivers think, or is he, too, ignorant of Milton's "Christian Doctrine"?), "sensational sermons, and a general air of the auctioneer's box pervading pulpit, pews, and the rest of it, will probably continue to be the rule with Congregationalism until the Bungs of the existing generation have burst, and its Lushes have been drained to the dregs." On which we may offer the remark that, bad as some of the "customs of Dissenters" may be, and confessedly are, we are not offered better elsewhere. No doubt we are "publicans" to the Pharisee of the literary press, but when Pharisaism or Sadduceism is our only other alternative, we hope we may be esteemed publicans for ever. Bungs and Lushes are detestable enough; but what shall we say of scoffing at the notion of even such a low being as a Dissenting tradesman being "spiritual"? Religion was intended, according to the creed of the *Saturday*, for "gentlemen";—the gentlemen for whom its sporting articles are written; the gentlemen who indulge in "clandestine domesticity"; and the gentlemen to whom it has introduced "Anonyma." They are the people entitled to religion. But for a cheesemonger or an auctioneer to presume to lay claim to it!—fudge! And very likely, after all, this article was written by a cheesemonger's son.

There is a candid article on this subject in the *Spectator*, which remarks that the dislike of English novelists for Dissenters is a curious and not very intelligible fact. Mrs. Florence Williamson's—that is to say, Mr. Rivers'—novel is described by this critic as "one savage sneer from beginning to end at all Dissenting ways, methods, colleges, and church-members, with one single exception." The *Spectator* adds:—"We like neither Nonconformist theology nor Nonconformist organisation; but we protest against controversy thus conducted as radically unfair." We then have some not untruthful remarks on the real failings of some Dissenting churches; which we have read and hope to have time to ponder over. The *Spectator* gives us medicine, the *Saturday* and his author give us dog's meat—not, perhaps, knowing the difference.

While we have thus been caricatured without either humour or truth, Mr. Spurgeon has been delivering a bold rebuke to the ministers of the Established Church. We have before us a sermon by this great and remarkable preacher, preached on Sunday morning, June 5th, on "Baptismal Regeneration." Mr. Spurgeon indicates that he expects hostility from preaching it, to lose the friendship of some, and stir up the enmity of more—expectations which, we think, he may reasonably anticipate to realise. For, he denounces with unsparing fidelity the position of the Evangelical clergy, and expresses without reserve his admiration of, at least the honesty of those who are not Evangelical. Let us quote on the first point:—

"But," I hear many good people exclaim, "there are many good clergymen in the Church who do not believe in baptismal regeneration." To this my answer is prompt. Why, then, do they belong to a Church which teaches that doctrine in the plainest terms? I am told that many in the Church of England preach against her own teaching. I know they do, and herein I rejoice in their enlightenment; but I question—gravely question—their morality. To take oath that I sincerely assent and consent to a doctrine which I do not believe, would, to my conscience, seem little short of perjury, if not absolute downright perjury; but those who do so must be judged by their own Lord. For me to take money for defending what I do not believe—for me to take the money of a Church, and then to preach against what are most evidently its doctrines—I say for me to do this, (I shall not judge the peculiar views of other men)—for me, or for any other simple, honest man to do so, were an atrocity so great, that if I had perpetrated the deed, I should consider myself out of the pale of truthfulness, honesty, and common morality. Sirs, when I accepted the office of minister of this congregation, I looked to see what were your articles of faith. If I had not believed them, I should not have accepted your call: and when I change my opinions, rest assured that as an honest man I shall resign the office; for how could I profess one thing in your declaration of faith, and quite another thing in my own preaching? Would I accept your pay, and then stand up every Sabbath-day and talk against the doctrines of your standards? For clergymen to swear or say that they give their solemn assent and consent to what they do not believe, is one of the grossest pieces of immorality perpetrated in England, and is most pestilential in its influence, since it directly teaches men to lie whenever it seems necessary to do so in order to get a living or increase their supposed usefulness: it is, in fact, an open testimony from priestly lips that, at least in ecclesiastical matters, falsehood may express truth, and truth itself is a mere unimportant nonentity. I know of nothing more calculated to debauch the public mind than a want of straightforwardness in ministers; and when worldly men hear ministers denouncing the very things which their own Prayer-book teaches, they imagine that words have no meaning among ecclesiastics, and that vital differences in religion are merely a matter of tweedle-dee and tweedle-dum, and that it does not much matter what a man does believe so long as he is charitable towards other people.

But Mr. Spurgeon is, as need scarcely be stated, not uncharitable:—

My brethren, those are honest Churchmen in this matter who, subscribing to the Prayer-book, believe in baptismal regeneration, and preach it plainly. God forbid that we should censure those who believe that baptism saves the soul, because they adhere to a Church which teaches the same doctrine. So far they are honest men; and in England, wherever else, let them never lack a full toleration. Let us oppose their teaching by all Scriptural and intelligent means, but let us respect their courage in plainly giving us their views. I hate their doctrine, but I love their honesty; and as they speak but what they believe to be true, let them speak it out, and the more clearly the better. Out with it, sirs, be it what it may, but do let us know what you mean. For my part, I love to stand foot to foot with an honest foe. To open warfare, bold and true hearts raise no objection but the ground of quarrel; it is covert enmity which we have most cause to fear, and best reason to loathe. That crafty kindness which inveigles me to sacrifice principle is the serpent in the grass—deadly to the incautious wayfarer. Where union and friendship are not cemented by truth, they are an unhallowed confederacy. It is time that there should be an end put to the flirtations of honest men with those who believe one way and swear another. If men believe baptism works regeneration, let them say so; but if they do not so believe it in their hearts, and yet subscribe, and yet more, get their livings by subscribing, to words asserting it, let them find congenial associates among men who can equivocate and shuffle, for honest men will neither ask nor accept their friendship.

We ask attention to the words we have italicised. Such opinions have not unoften been expressed in these columns, but we can scarcely hope with the

force which they have now found. This sermon is a "Tract for the Times."

Dr. Hook has followed the *Guardian* in seeking to show that the Conservative party and the Church party are not to be identified. In a letter to the *Times*, the Dean of Chichester says that such an identification would be a "retrograde movement," and that political relations have nothing to do with Churchmanship. The increasing anxiety shown on this subject seems to indicate that the wiser men in the Conservative Church are beginning to feel that they have been playing for some years past a mistaken game. But could Dr. Hook answer these questions? How is it that the Tory party, to a man, vote for the retention of Church-rates, for the rejection of the Qualifications Bill, for retaining all the abuses of the Irish Church, for excluding Dissenters from the Universities and from schools? How is it that both Houses of the Convocations of Canterbury and York back the Tory party in all their measures? How is it that every Church journal, without exception, is a Tory journal? Dr. Hook may desire, before the public, to show that the holding of Liberal principles is not inconsistent with sound Churchmanship, but does he hold Liberal principles, and would he vote for any Liberal measure? The personal suavity and large-hearted sympathies of the learned Dean we should be the last to question; but we doubt if that suavity or that sympathy would deter him from seizing our goods for Church-rates, or excluding us from the advantages of a liberal education. The fact is, that Church Tories cannot play fast and loose. If they give up Toryism in ecclesiastical questions, they must give up Toryism in political questions. Plainly, Dr. Hook, are Mr. Dillwyn, Mr. Dodson, and Sir John Trelawny, in your estimation, good Churchmen? We doubt it. It will not answer to abuse Church Liberals from the Tory bench for their Liberal Churchmanship, and praise them in the newspapers, in gratitude for votes and money to come.

That there are both Liberal Churchmen and Church Liberals, we have, more than many, good reason to know. For all that we have ever gained from the Legislature we are indebted to them, and for what we may yet obtain we must rely, to a large extent, on the same party. And we know, well enough, that we can rely with as much confidence upon them as we can upon our own friends. If we ever needed assurance of this, we should have had it at the remarkable meeting which was held at Freemasons' Tavern on Friday afternoon last. This meeting was summoned at the instance of several members of the University of Oxford, to decide upon the course which it would be desirable to take in support of University extension. Some two hundred members of the Oxford and Cambridge Universities, several members of Parliament, and some Nonconformists were present. Amongst those who took part in the proceedings were Mr. Bouverie, M.P. (who occupied the chair); Professors Goldwin Smith, J. Thorold Rogers, and Jowett, of the University of Oxford; Professor Fawcett, of the University of Cambridge; Dean Stanley; Mr. Chichester Fortescue, M.P.; Mr. Dodson, M.P.; Mr. Goschen, M.P.; Mr. Heywood; Mr. Bright, M.P.; and Mr. Miall. There were also present amongst those whom we recognised, Mr. Ewart, M.P., Mr. Pollard Urquhart, M.P., the Rev. F. D. Maurice, Mr. Thomas Hughes, and Mr. Morley. We are precluded from giving any report of the proceedings, but we may state that there was a perfect unity of sentiment, and almost of principle, in all the speeches. Those speakers who represented the Nonconformists were received with more than gentlemanly courtesy. Had it been possible for many of those who read this to have been present at this meeting, they would say, as we say, that it was one of the most gratifying marks of the progress of the principles of religious equality, and that it was full of promise with respect to the future.

CHURCH-RATES IN THE PARISHES.

STAPLEHURST.—At a vestry-meeting of this parish held a few days ago, for the novel object of considering "how to collect the last rate made," the eccentric Mr. H. Hoare made one of his characteristic speeches of an hour's duration, in the course of which he said:—"The voluntary principle had done wonders; at the present time there were one million of children in the Sunday-schools of the Dissenters, and not a million in the schools of the Establishment. He longed for the time when there would be an exchange of pulpits between the clergymen of the Establishment and Dissent. He longed for more Christian unity, in order that infidels might be silenced. He would, if necessary, fight the battle of Church-rates single-handed; he would fight all England. He would not rest until Church-rates were again established in all the great towns.

He had called the vestry on his own responsibility entirely, and he now solicited the advice of the 'peers in Parliament assembled.' Mr. Jull then rose to speak, but was put down by the chairman, who said he could not think of allowing any one who had not paid the rate to speak. The following resolution was then carried:—"That the churchwardens collect the rate as they think fit." Permission was then given to the opponents of the rate to speak, and Mr. Jull and Mr. Barling ably met most of the observations of the chairman. The meeting then dispersed. Some irreverent person, who signs "Rascals," has described in rhyme some of Mr. Hoare's exploits:—

Of all the odd places that ever were made—
Of all the queer sayings that ever were said—
Of all the strange doings that ever were done—
The parish of Staplehurst stands number one.
It matters not whether the priest or the people,
The rate for the church or the thing on the steeple;
To be odd, queer, and strange, we are known through the land,
And the better we're known the queerer we stand.
Historians tell of the days of Queen Bess,
But they were not equal to our days I guess.
What we say and write—the freaks that we play,
Will put all antiquities out of the way.
I well recollect the year sixty-two,
Its rare entertainments, so racy, so new,
The meeting at church when nothing was done,
The vestry—the rector—the lawyer—the fun;
And then at friend Hickmott's the meeting upstairs,
When churchwarden Hoare was our chaplain at prayers,
The charity collect—the fool's-cap—no tea,
O that Punch had been there—what a sketch it would be!
The threat of proceedings—the vestry—the show,
The bench scene at Cranbrook—proceedings "no go."
The village surprise—the crestfallen Ninnies,—
A lawyer's bill upwards of one hundred guineas.
The second campaign in spring, sixty-four,
Was opened by notice from churchwarden Hoare:
The vestry assembled,—the rector not there,—
And churchwarden Hoare was moved to the chair.
His opening speech an hour and a quarter,
Some good and some bad, but most milk-and-water;
Dissenters, church parsons, by turns right and wrong;
The Church very weak, and yet very strong.
She needed consistency, union, and love,
And then she might reckon on help from above.
He'd have change of pulpits 'twixt Church and Dissent,
And lots of his preachers in house and in tent;
But payment of Church-rates in towns there should be.
And he'd get them I by asking the ladies to tea!
He liked persecution,—was willing to fight
All England himself, in defence of the right,—
The right to compell all Dissenters to pay,
And make the law stronger,—yes, that was the way.
Dissenters were dangerous,—Guy Fawkes was their type;
For England's destruction their projects were ripe;
But his plans were laid and he'd bring them to pass,
With his chosen assassins,—and ————
Now "peers," said the chair,—'tis my pleasure to state
That you may now speak who have not paid the rate;
But don't talk of grievance or conscience I pray,
For none can have either—but such as do pay.
Thus ended the meeting, save thanks to the chair,
For conduct, 'twas said, so impartial and fair;
And as I walk'd homeward I could not help thinking
That a church thus supported must surely be sinking.

WALKER BRIDGE, LANCASHIRE.—The rector of this parish having issued a notice to the householders stating that he does not intend to give up the principle of Church-rates because the law has established it, Mr. M'Kean, manufacturer, announced his intention of lecturing on Church-rates, and invited the attendance of the supporters of the impost. There was a large meeting to listen to him in the schoolroom on Monday week. After an able argument on the general question, Mr. M'Kean referred for illustration of the working of the system to the nearest township, Bretherton.

The clergymen there (he said) had used the vague and false weapon that the payment of the rate was a bounden duty, a moral obligation, and as being necessary to the character of an honest man. In that parish there had been some singular irregularities in the rate and the uses of the rate, for last year certain ratepayers there were summoned before the magistrates for the amount of their rates. All the might of clerical and landlord influence was brought to bear upon the oppressed people, with a view of crushing out any spirit of opposition. The cases were heard, and some curious discrepancies brought to light, such, for instance, as one small farmer paying as many pounds of rate as another paid shillings, simply on account of an old custom. When, however, this custom came to be looked into, it would not bear inquiry. He also mentioned some other anomalies in the rating at Bretherton, and passed on to say that eventually the rate was carried, and on the following Sunday the minister of the parish preached a notable sermon, taking for his text the words, "The gates of hell shall not prevail against it." They could judge the character of the sermon from the nature of the text, which he criticised at some length.

He referred to the way in which Nonconformists, and in some cases, Churchmen themselves, maintained their places of worship as proof of the power of Christian willinghood. If the latter could not trust to the offertory, the opponents of Church-rates would propose that resort should be had to voluntary contributions throughout the parish. He promised that the wardens should not call upon him in vain. Further, he was willing to assist the wardens by going with them round the parish to collect voluntary contributions. If he were asked whether he knew of any other way of remedying the levying of the rate, he answered, none; and if the contrary course were pursued, and if the command which they knew had gone forth to tighten all those legal bonds was to be obeyed rather than Christian injunction, then matters could not remain as they were. He had tried to meet the challenger with such weapons as he had used that night, and he did think they were the noblest weapons for such a strife. There could be no true, no permanent union of Christians within and without the Establishment where Church-rates were insisted upon, where one day two persons might meet upon the platform of the Bible Society and on the next before the magistrates. He asked, in view of their welfare as a parish, for the solemn consideration of his view of the question. Mr. Sumner, churchwarden of Hoole, said they had tried a volun-

tary rate, and it had failed. At the same time, he was quite willing to exclude from the rate all but the repairs of the church and churchyard. The Rev. W. Hodges, of Bretherton, next spoke. He said the question of Church-rates was one that must sooner or later be settled for ever. He had been amused by the remarks of Mr. Sumner. Did that gentleman say that there was so little love for the Church in the hearts of the Church people that unless the parishioners were compelled by law to keep up their edifice it must go to ruin, and everything decay? He had faith in his principles, and he had no fear about his little chapel at Bretherton going down, nor about the gravestones there being knocked about, because there was not a law compelling Churchmen to help his flock to keep them in repair. Wherever the Church had been thrown on its own resources Voluntaryism had beaten Church-rates, and he had not the slightest doubt such would be the case at Hoole. He next spoke of the influences which had been brought to bear on the tenantry at Bretherton, and said the agent on the estate had refused to use his influence to bias the voting; he would allow the tenantry to vote as they chose. He believed Church-rates were at an end at Bretherton, so far as compulsory payment was concerned. A vote of thanks to the lecturer terminated the proceedings.

WOODFORD, NEAR WINSFORD.—A WARNING ABOUT NEW PARISHES.—A rate was lately made in this parish under the following circumstances:—The parish is eight months old, having been formed out of two other parishes. A short time since a vestry-meeting was called; but no one had looked for or seen the notice, and it was utterly unknown to the inhabitants generally. It was, however, held, and was attended by the incumbent and the two churchwardens. They called in, while they were sitting, a passer-by, and with his assistance a rate was made on 400 ratepayers. This rate was, as may be imagined, resisted. It was proved before the magistrates that one warden was not a ratepayer, and that the rate made was for expenses already incurred. The magistrates, however, granted summonses, which, of course, can be upset.

THE AMERICAN CHURCHES AND SLAVERY.

(From the *New York Tribune*, 29th May.)

The General Conference of the Methodist Episcopal Church, which represents the largest Protestant denomination of this country, passed, on Tuesday, a resolution which will mark a turning point in the history of the relation of the American churches to slavery. After a brief, and, as it seems, on the whole, dispassionate discussion, it was resolved by 204 yeas to 8 nays, so to change the "general rule" as to forbid slaveholding altogether. The minority consisted of three delegates from the West Virginia Conference, two from the Kentucky, two from the Baltimore, and one from the East Baltimore Conference. All the delegates of the Missouri and Arkansas Conference, as well as the entire delegation of the Philadelphia Conference, which comprises parts of Maryland and Delaware, voted with the majority. So also did the majority of the delegates from the Baltimore and East Baltimore Conferences. The delegates of those conferences which lie wholly within the Free States showed a very remarkable unanimity in favour of the report, not casting a single vote against it. Most of the speakers of the majority are known as anti-slavery men, and announced themselves as such, and they only declared themselves against the measure on the ground of expediency. In order to become an obligatory law, the resolution just past must be presented to each annual Conference, of which there are forty-eight within the boundaries of the United States, and so soon as three-fourths of the members of all the annual conferences who may be present and vote thereon shall have concurred, the proposed change takes effect. As the vote of the general conference indicates, this concurrence of the annual conference is not in the least doubtful. It may possibly be rejected by three, the West Virginia, the Kentucky, and the Baltimore Conferences, and a few votes may be cast against it in two other Border Conferences (East Baltimore and Philadelphia); but all the others will pass it with entire, or nearly entire, unanimity. A year from to-day the vote of all the annual conferences will have been ascertained, and then the Methodist Episcopal Church will take her place at the head of the anti-slavery churches of the United States. The effect of this change upon the anti-slavery sentiment of the country cannot fail to be marked. Hitherto only a number of the smaller denominations of the country had taken this position. Thus among the Methodists only the Wesleyans, with a membership of about 21,000, the Free Methodists and the Independent Methodists, two small organisations of recent origin, had excluded slaveholders from their communion, while the Methodist Episcopal Church, with about 900,000 members, only prohibited the buying and selling of slaves, and the Methodist Protestant Church (about 90,000 members) had no general law on the subject of slaveholding. Among the Presbyterians, the United Presbyterians (57,000 members), the Reformed Presbyterians (15,000), and the Free Presbyterian Synod (4,000 members) did not allow slaveholding; while no such prohibition was enforced among the Old-School Presbyterians (300,000 members), the New-School Presbyterians (135,000 members), or the Cumberland Presbyterians (about 103,000 members). Among the other denominations, "the United Brethren in Christ," who number about 100,000 communicants, and the Friends, adhered to a slavery-forbidding policy, while the Protestant Episcopal Church, the Roman Catholics, the Lutherans, the German and Dutch Reformed, and the Universalists refrained from legislating on the subject. The General Conference of the Methodist Episcopal Church consists only of clerical delegates. But the laity, on this question, are by no means behind the clergy. At a general convention of laymen from all parts of the country, which met in the first days of the present week in Philadelphia to memorialise the general conference for the introduction of lay delegations into the church

assemblies, resolutions were introduced in favour of the abolition of slavery in Church and State, and they passed without a dissenting voice, although many members of the convention were known to have had heretofore very conservative views on the subject of slavery. Now that the most numerous of the American churches has placed itself at the head of the anti-slavery churches of the country, we may expect that others will speedily follow.

THE ENGLISH CHURCH UNION.—The Rev. James Skinner and the Rev. Dr. Biber have withdrawn their names from the Council of the English Church Union, on account of the mischievous influence likely to be exercised by the Union "according to its present development."—*Guardian*.

A CONVERT TO DR. COLENSO.—The Incumbent of Holy Trinity, Mossley, near Congleton, has written to the two Archbishops and to his Diocesan a long letter, stating that he has found Bishop Colenso's arguments "in the main irresistible," and that he does not consider any of the answers satisfactory. Their lordships not having replied to his letter, he sends it to the papers for publication.

SUNDAY WORK.—It is stated that there are employed in secular work on the Lord's day in the United Kingdom the following:—

Railway servants	100,000
Boatmen on rivers and canals with their families	100,000
Post-office officials	20,000
Cabmen, and persons connected with omnibuses in London alone	24,000
Publicans and beer-shop-keepers	275,000

THE COURT OF COMMON COUNCIL AND BUNHILL-FIELDS.—At Thursday's meeting of the Common Council, Alderman Moon presiding, Mr. Deputy Charles Reed presented the memorial, signed by Mr. Remington Mills, M.P., Mr. Samuel Merley, and many more, which appeared in our last number, and which prays the court to take steps to secure the preservation in its present condition of Bunhill-fields burial-ground. The court passed a unanimous resolution referring the memorial to the City Lands Committee for them to consider what steps should be taken for preserving the burial-ground in its present state.

THE CONSTITUTION OF THE COURT OF QUEEN'S BENCH.—A correspondent writes to the *Record*:—"Is not the present constitution of the Court of Queen's Bench rather peculiar? Of the four puisne judges, I believe not one belongs to the Established Church. Mr. Justice Orompton is well known as belonging to the Unitarian denomination. Mr. Justice Blackburn was born and bred, and I believe still remains, a Scotch Presbyterian. Mr. Justice Mellor is, in like manner, associated with the English Congregational Dissenters. Mr. Justice Shree is an avowed Roman Catholic; so that on Sir Alexander Cockburn alone, himself a Scotch baronet, devolves the duty of representing, as one out of five judges, the interests and reputation of the Church of England. This anomaly struck me forcibly the other day, when the argument was held on the respective rights of new and old parocchial incumbents, in the case of *Sale v. Livesey*. It seemed rather strange to hear judges inquiring what was the meaning of the 'Peel parish.'

IMPORTANT DECISION RESPECTING DISSENTING CHURCHES.—A member of a Dissenting congregation in Wales, a woman, being charged by one of the brethren with unchastity and turned out of the congregation in consequence, brought an action for slander; and the case which came on in the shape of a demurrer to the declaration, was argued some days since before the Court of Queen's Bench. Counsel contended, on the part of the defendant, that refusal of communion and denial of association with the minister and leaders of a religious congregation were not special temporal damage, and that therefore the action could not lie. The Lord Chief Justice held a similar opinion, but thought "the law was cruelly hard which prevented a married woman whose character had been wantonly assailed from vindicating it by an action, unless she could show some substantial temporal damage."

COMBINED LAY AND CLERICAL ADDRESS TO THE ARCHBISHOPS.—The following is the copy of an address to the archbishops, to which signatures are being received:—

To his Grace the Lord Archbishop of Canterbury, Primate of all England and Metropolitan; to his Grace the Lord Archbishop of York, Primate of England and Metropolitan:—

We, the undersigned clergymen and laymen of the several Provinces of England and Ireland, hereby acknowledge with deep gratitude the pastorals lately issued by your graces to the two Provinces of Canterbury and York. Our fervent prayer is that your graces may be richly endowed with wisdom from on high, and may be enabled, with the other primates and bishops of the United Church of England and Ireland, to take effectual counsel for upholding, amid the peculiar dangers of the present times, the Divine authority of Holy Scripture and the integrity of the faith, so that the Gospel of our Lord and Saviour may be taught in all its purity among ourselves, and handed on, without diminution or addition, to our children's children.

PRIMITIVE METHODIST CONFERENCE AT YORK.—On Wednesday, fifty-six young men were received as candidates for the ministry, and sixty-four were received into full connection, after having finished their probation. Four ministers were placed on the superannuation list. The report of the Canadian Conference, and the appeals, occupied the remaining portion of the day. In the evening the conference missionary meeting took place in Ebenezer Chapel, Mr. J. Nott, of Brampton, Herefordshire, presided.

The Rev. M. Lupton, of London, stated that the general missionary committee had 86 stations under its care, 65 of which were home stations, on which there were 129 missionaries. The foreign stations are in South Australia, Victoria, New South Wales, Queensland, New Zealand, Tasmania, and Canada, and an application had been sent for a missionary to Africa. The amount received during the year, including a balance of 341*l.*, was 8,377*l.* 5*s.* 10*d.*; and at the present time he believed their missionary fund was minus 1,000*l.* On the whole, success had crowned their efforts. Several speeches in support of missions were delivered. On Thursday, the circuits of the preachers were fixed.

DEAN HOOK ON LORD ROBERT CECIL'S DICTUM.—His lordship's assertion that a good Churchman must be a good Conservative has provoked a dignified rebuke from the Rev. Dr. Hook, Dean of Chichester, formerly vicar of Leeds. The Dean points out how at the close of the last and the beginning of the present centuries an attempt was made, and to a certain extent succeeded, in rendering the Church of England subservient to the purposes of a political party, and he indignantly repudiates such a coalition now. Speaking on behalf of those who set themselves against such a degradation of the Church, he says—"They maintained, and they will still maintain, that the Church—a national institution—is concerned with politics only so far as politics form a department of morals—that is to say, so far as they relate to those principles which all Englishmen hold in common." Let a man be a good Churchman, and the Dean of Chichester cares not a straw whether he be a Tory or a Radical. "As I was," he says, "for many years a parochial minister in a district where Churchmen were not inactive, I am in duty bound to affirm that I always found among the Liberals some of the most enlightened, the best informed, and the most munificent supporters of the Church of England." The dean then unburdens himself of a few thoughts respecting the working classes. Appealing to a thirty years' experience acquired in the manufacturing districts, he bears his testimony to the wonderful advance of this class, "to their gradual formation of habits, both of prudence and temperance, and to their cultivation of the other virtues to which social science has called attention." He then expresses his gratification that Lord Derby and Mr. Gladstone (the Dean, we think, is tripping in including his lordship) "have arrived at the conclusion that the time has come when, to include a considerable portion of this meritorious class of our countrymen and brethren, there must be an extension of the suffrage."

THE CHANCELLOR OF OXFORD UNIVERSITY AND PARTY POLITICS.—Ten days ago the Tory newspapers published a report of a party dinner given by a "University Conservative Association" at Oxford, to which they ascribe considerable importance. Archbishop Denison spoke there "as a party man," and "gloried in addressing those who were as much party men as himself"; and it was there that Lord Robert Cecil delivered that speech which has since been noticed in the House of Commons. Mr. Ward Hunt was there also, and proposed the health of Lord Derby, who is Chancellor of the University, as "a leader in whom the rank and file of the Conservative party had the most thorough confidence," a toast which was acknowledged by Dr. Wynter, President of St. John's, private secretary to the Chancellor. Three letters have passed between the Earl of Derby and Professor Conington on this subject. As the Chancellor of the University is the guardian of the interests of the whole academical body, irrespective of party, Mr. Conington was naturally desirous of ascertaining whether he approved of the acts of the private secretary on this occasion in speaking for him in acknowledgment of a party toast. It is not suggested that any important consequences depended on the approbation or disapprobation which Lord Derby might express, still every member of the university wishes to know how far the chancellor values his neutrality among the parties which exist in the body. It will be seen that Lord Derby approves of the function which Dr. Wynter assumed as the chancellor's private secretary. He does not conceive that the relation in which Dr. Wynter stands to him or to the university—for he is a paid officer of the university—should limit his political action. But then, if Lord Derby's private secretary may, with his approval, appear at a party meeting, and in that character respond to a party toast in the noble Earl's name, by the same rule Lord Derby himself might attend a similar demonstration. The correspondence is merely interesting on account of the extreme Tory opinions expressed at the dinner, and as showing the extent to which Lord Derby is willing to be identified with the speakers.—*Daily News*.

PROFESSOR JOWETT.—On Sunday morning, in consequence of an announcement that the Rev. Benjamin Jowett, M.A., Fellow of Balliol College and Professor of Greek in the University of Oxford, would preach in the parish church of St. Botolph, Bishopgate, on behalf of the parochial schools, there was an overwhelming congregation, persons from all parts of London having attended the service. The congregation was composed for the most part of men, a circumstance not at all usual in London churches. Some months ago the Bishop of London nominated the Rev. William Rogers, one of her Majesty's chaplains, to the rich living of Bishopgate. Mr. Rogers having been at Balliol College, was a personal friend of Mr. Jowett, and it was rather on that account, it is supposed, that he invited him to preach, than in his character of a writer in "Essays and Reviews." The Dean of Westminster (Dr. Stanley) read the communion

service, assisted by the rector, after which Professor Jowett ascended the pulpit, and selected for his text the 18th chapter of St. John's Gospel, verses 8 and 9—"Jesus answered, I have told you that I am he: if therefore ye seek me, let these go their way: that the saying might be fulfilled, which he spake, Of them which thou gavest me have I lost none." The reverend gentleman, in the course of his sermon, spoke of the mysterious union of Christ with God, and remarked that while no elaborate disquisitions or speculations would throw light on the matter, the way in which it could be realised was by seeing that none of His children on earth were lost—children, pupils, servants, or others over whom they had authority. A little care might do everything for them, especially in early life. He could not understand how men could turn away from such plain duties and remain Christians at all. He contended that real religion consisted, not in the acceptance of doubtful matters of history, but in the blameless power of the Christian life, and those who understood that principle would not be alarmed by what was going on in the Church around them. The essence of Christianity consisted, not in hard words or abstract systems of theology, but in taking up the cross and following Christ. A liberal collection followed the reverend professor's earnest appeal on behalf of the schools.

STATISTICS OF SCOTCH PRESBYTERIANS.—Last year the United Presbyterian Church had 578 separate congregations, with 170,531 communicants, and an attendance on Sundays of 198,473. The total income of the Church was 216,618*l.*, being at the rate of 2*s.* 4*d.* from each member. Nearly a fourth of the whole income was devoted to missionary and benevolent objects. The Free Church may be considered as nearly twice stronger. It had last year 892 ministers with congregations, and 264,000 communicants. Its income was 341,934*l.* It has three colleges with 14 professors and 196 students, while the U. P. Church has 151 students. In the absence of a national educational system, it has 610 teachers in its schools, which are attended by 48,089 pupils, while there are 61,062 on the roll. If the Churches were united, there would be no less than half-a-million of adults under their influence, or nearly two-thirds of the whole population, which, including children, is a little more than three million (3,062,294). The number of Established Church ministers is slightly more than that of the Free Church. At the recent meeting of the General Assembly of the Established Church, the Moderator (Dr. Perie) said:—"From the registration returns it would seem that our numbers probably exceed all other denominations taken together—our numbers certainly far more than double those of any other religious body in the land." The Rev. R. Stark, of Glasgow, in a letter to the *Scotsman*, calls in question the accuracy of this statement. On data which he indicates, he estimates the following as the proportion of the population connected with each Church in the present year:—

Established Church	894,591
Free Church	819,345
U.P. Church	511,593
Other Churches	386,262
Receiving religious instruction ...	2,611,791
Not connected with any Church ...	501,213

Total population in 1864 3,113,004

Mr. Stark thinks, therefore, that it would be becoming on the part of the Established Church, instead of professing to be already so far in advance numerically of other Churches, to endeavour still more earnestly to win over to her communion and her faith in the only Saviour the vast masses of the population who attend no place of worship.

Religious Intelligence.

CROUCH END, HORNSEY.—The annual entertainment provided by the Congregational church and congregation, for the twofold purpose, during several years past, of an anniversary celebration and for the obtaining of means for enlarged accommodation and usefulness, was lately held with great success. Sermons were preached by the Revs. Baptist Noel and Newman Hall to large congregations; and in the afternoon some 200 ladies and gentlemen, including several from neighbouring fellowships, and over a dozen ministerial brethren, dined together in the beautiful and commodious schoolroom, which had been rendered additionally attractive by an abundance of shrubs and flowers. The Rev. John Corbin, the pastor, presided, and brief speeches were made by the Rev. S. Davis, of Barnet; Mr. Bedell, Mr. B. R. Thomson, Rev. J. Viney, of Highgate; Rev. P. H. Davison, of Wandsworth; Rev. W. Brock, jun., of Hampstead; Mr. Henry Wright, of Turnham-green, and Mr. Geard. There were also present the Revs. F. Soden, Clement Dukes, A. Buzacott, A. Hannay, A. H. New, A. Good, J. S. Hall, J. S. Wardlaw, E. Leighton, &c. All the speakers gave expression to sentiments of admiration of the zeal and liberality displayed by the church, and congratulated Mr. Corbin upon being the pastor of so worthy and loving a people, which that gentleman reciprocated to the fullest extent, and adverted to the efforts they had made for the enlargement of the chapel and the erection of the new schoolroom. To clear off all the monetary obligations which these works had incurred there was still wanting the sum of 245*l.* Mr. Geard stated that, unknown to the pastor, Mr. Thomson, with himself and a few other friends, had on the previous evening resolved to attempt the complete re-

moval of the debt, by themselves subscribing various sums for that purpose, amounting in the aggregate to 80*l.* Thereupon Mr. Corbin added 10*l.*, Mr. Henry Wright 10*l.*, and other gentlemen smaller sums: which, united with the collections and the proceeds of the dinner, left only some 50*l.* to be obtained at the close of the day.

NEW CONGREGATIONAL CHAPEL, CRESCENT-ROAD, PLUMSTEAD.—An important effort has been commenced in the above place by the Kent Association. An eligible preparatory chapel, nearly new, and seating between three and four hundred people, having been recently purchased by Mr. Samuel Morley, it was opened for Divine worship under the auspices of the County Association, on Tuesday, the 31st of May, when a sermon was preached by the Rev. Joseph Beazley, of Blackheath. The Rev. R. B. Isaac and the Rev. W. Gill, neighbouring ministers in Woolwich, and the Rev. Henry Baker, of Lewisham, secretary of the association, also took part in the service. On the Sunday following the pulpit was occupied by the Rev. R. B. Isaac and by the Rev. J. Pulling, of Deptford. Plumstead contains a very large population, numbering upwards of 20,000 souls, and hitherto no Congregational place of worship has existed in the parish. The aggregate church and chapel accommodation is believed not to exceed 7,000 sittings. A noble field of Christian effort, therefore, is here opened up, and if the right man be found to occupy it, there is every reason to hope that, with God's blessing, a flourishing Christian church will soon be gathered. The pulpit will be supplied on Sunday next, the 19th inst., by the Rev. J. H. Wilson, secretary of the Home Missionary Society.

CROYDON.—The new Congregational church erected in the Dingwall-road, Croydon, for the use of the Rev. Frederick Stephens and his friends, was opened for worship on Wednesday last. The Rev. John Stoughton preached in the morning, and the Rev. H. Allon in the evening. On Sunday last the services were conducted by the Rev. Dr. Spence and the Rev. F. Stephens. This evening the Rev. J. Baldwin Brown will preach. Large collections were made at the services on Wednesday, which were very numerously attended. The edifice is one of the handsomest in the county of Surrey.

PUDSEY.—The Rev. J. Atkinson, of Clithero, has accepted an invitation from the Independent church and congregation worshipping here to become their minister.

LEAMINGTON.—The Rev. W. Slater, of Enfield, has accepted an earnest and perfectly unanimous invitation to the pastorate of the Congregational church, Hollywalk, Leamington.

DONCASTER.—The Rev. E. S. Prout, M.A., of Reigate, formerly co-pastor of the Rev. J. Alexander, of Norwich, has accepted the unanimous invitation of the Independent church at Doncaster to become their pastor; and he will commence his ministry on the first Sunday in July.

FAKENHAM.—The recognition services of the Rev. E. F. Warren, as pastor of the Independent church in this town, were performed on Tuesday last. In the afternoon the Rev. R. Drane, of Guestwick, opened the service by prayer, the Rev. P. Colborne, of Norwich, read the Scriptures, and the Rev. J. Hallett, of Norwich, gave a very able exposition of the nature and government of the Christian churches in the time of the Apostles, showing that the Congregational churches of the present time were in conformity therewith. The Rev. John Alexander, of Norwich, put the usual questions to the church and pastor. The Rev. Dr. Ferguson then delivered an address to the pastor on the duties of Christian ministers. After this service a public tea was provided in the Assembly Room, of which about 260 friends partook. In the evening a public service was held in the Corn Hall, when the Rev. H. Christopherson, of New College Chapel, London, preached an eloquent sermon from Matthew iii. 15, and other ministers took part in the service. The hall was filled with a large and attentive audience, and a collection made at the close to defray the expense of the hall, &c., was liberally responded to.

CARDIFF.—Bethany Chapel, in this flourishing seaport, is about being pulled down, and a new one built in its stead, which shall be more adapted to modern wants and tastes. It is to cost about 2,000*l.* Sunday week was set apart for special services, when the Rev. R. Griffith, the pastor, delivered two sermons to large congregations, and 20*l.* was collected for the building fund of the new edifice. On Monday a large tea and public meeting was held. The pastor presided, and after his short address, Dr. Thomas followed with a sketch of the Baptist cause at Cardiff during the last sixty years, expressing his belief that there were from 1,000 to 2,000 Welsh Baptist communicants in the town. The Revs. J. Bailey, J. Davies (Welsh Independent), and J. J. Brown, of Birmingham, then spoke. Mr. Davies said that Sir Joseph Bailey was in the habit of saying he was greatly indebted to the Dissenters. When he planted his works at Nantyglo he said had it not been for the Dissenters he should never have been able to carry on the works, and he said he was indebted temporally to the great moral influence of the Dissenters in Nantyglo and other places. (Applause.) Brief addresses were afterwards delivered by the Rev. Mr. Williams (Independent), Mr. Cory, Mr. T. White, Dr. Edwards, and the Rev. H. Chester; after which the Rev. N. Thomas spoke on the necessity and importance of co-operation in order to carry out the object contemplated.

CANTERBURY.—The new place of worship connected with the congregation of the Countess of Huntingdon's Chapel, in this city, to replace that in

Watling-street, was opened on Thursday week. The occasion drew together a large number of people from neighbouring towns. In the morning a sermon was preached by the Rev. S. Martin, of Westminster, who selected as his text the 12th verse of the 4th chapter of Acts. In the evening the Rev. Dr. Parker, of Manchester, preached from Luke xxii. 31, 32. After the morning service, an excellent cold collation was served in the school. About 200 sat down. Tea and supper were also provided for visitors and friends. The collections amounted to 84s. On Sunday the opening services were continued, when two sermons were preached—morning and evening—by the Rev. H. J. Bevis, of Ramsgate. The total amount derived from the opening services in aid of the building fund amounted to 135s. The new chapel, which stands on the site of the old one, was erected from the plans of Mr. Poulton, of Reading. It will cost about 2,100l. (including schools underneath), and will seat 500 persons. The Rev. V. Ward is the pastor.

STRATFORD-ON-AVON.—The Rev. C. H. Spurgeon preached two sermons on the Bowling-green belonging to the "Red Horse" in this town, on Tuesday, June 7th. The afternoon's subject of discourse was "The healing of the lame man at Lystra" (Acts xiv. 7-10), and that of the evening, "The Lamb and His redeemed in glory" (Rev. xiv. 1-3). The weather was favourable, and the congregations large and respectable. In the evening it is computed that about 2,000 were present. The collections amounted to 51l. 12s. 2d., which will be divided between Mr. Spurgeon's college and the schoolrooms lately erected in Payton-street, Stratford-on-Avon. The services were at first announced to be held in the large pavilion recently erected for the Shakespeare Tercentenary Celebration, which building was kindly granted by the contractors, Messrs. Branson and Murray, of Birmingham. But, as it was on land belonging to another gentleman (who by the way is in a feeble state and eighty-five years of age, therefore unequal to any discussion of the subject), the legal agent of this latter gentleman, being, of course, a thorough Churchman, and therefore highly indignant that such a use should be made of such a building, addressed a letter to the proprietors, stating that it could not be used "for such a purpose." This proceeding has been very far from securing popularity to the author, whilst it has increased the sympathy with our Baptist friends in this town. The following are the letters referred to above:—

Birmingham, May 28th, 1864.

Dear Sir,—With reference to yours of the 20th inst., you may have the use of the Stratford Pavilion for the 7th of June next, upon the terms mentioned to you, viz., ten guineas per day.

I must apologise for not communicating with you before, but have been from home some three or four days.

Yours truly,

J. W. BRANSON.

Mr. James Cox.

(2.)

Stratford-on-Avon, June 1, 1864.

Dear Sir,—We are instructed by Mr. Mason, the owner of the land on which the Pavilion stands, to give you notice that he cannot allow the public to enter upon his ground on the 7th June next, or any other day, on the occasion of the Rev. Mr. Spurgeon preaching as announced in public advertisements and handbills. We regret that you should have agreed to let the Pavilion for such a purpose, without first acquainting us, on behalf of Mr. Mason, or obtaining his consent. We trust, therefore, you will not allow the building to be used for the purpose named.

Yours faithfully,

HOBBS and SLATTER.

Messrs. Branson and Murray, Belmont-row, Birmingham.

SOMERSET CONGREGATIONAL ASSOCIATION.—The sixty-eighth anniversary services in connection with the Somerset Association of Ministers and Churches were held in North-street Chapel on Tuesday and Wednesday week, and were very successful. On Tuesday evening the Rev. J. W. Sampson, Independent minister, of Yeovil, preached a sermon from the words, "Flee from the wrath to come"; and on Wednesday morning the Rev. M. Dickie, Presbyterian minister, of Bristol, delivered a discourse founded upon the Saviour's injunction to His apostles, to go into all the world and preach the Gospel. The congregations were large. On Wednesday afternoon a numerous company sat down to a cold luncheon in the schoolroom, over which the chairman (the Rev. S. Wilkinson, pastor of the church) presided. A vote of thanks to the preachers was moved by the Rev. E. H. Jones, secretary to the association, seconded by the Rev. W. H. Griffith, head master of the Independent college, and suitably acknowledged. After a few remarks from Mr. Spencer, association treasurer, Mr. Rossiter addressed the meeting. The Rev. H. V. Cowell (Baptist chapel, Taunton), the Rev. J. Taylor, of Fulwood, Mr. Simpson, and Mr. S. Pollard, also spoke. A public meeting was held in North-street Chapel in the evening, the Rev. S. Wilkinson in the chair. The Rev. E. H. Jones read the reports of the two committees, which stated that notwithstanding special collections, the association was still in debt. With respect to evangelistic effort, it was stated—

Four years ago there were not any evangelists connected with the Home Missionary Society, but now there were sixty, who were brought by visitation and in other ways into close contact with upwards of 15,000 families, who, but for this agency, would for the most part be without the means of grace. In this county there were nine evangelists, and the influence which this agency was exerting could scarcely be known or estimated; for, although opposition and discouragement

were met with, the committee were cheered in the belief that God had blessed the efforts of their labourers. The evangelists had continued to make returns of the number of those whom they visited, the tracts and copies of the Scriptures they had distributed, and had given details as to many on whom they had called. They had also at the close of the year given a brief review of their labours, and extracts from their communications were appended to the report. In many of the districts, too, in which the evangelists were stationed, meetings had been held, which had been attended by the treasurer or secretary, or some member of the committee, and these gatherings had been of service in many ways—among others that thereby the hands of their agents had been upheld, their hearts cheered, and also that through them the need for sympathising prayer and liberal effort had been more deeply felt.

On the motion of the Rev. R. P. Erlebach, seconded by the Rev. M. Dickie, the report was adopted and ordered to be printed and circulated. The officers and committee for the ensuing year were appointed. Mr. H. COSSHAM (of Bristol) moved the following resolution:—

That this meeting is deeply grateful to God, for that which has been accomplished by the Somerset Association; but, feeling deeply the importance of aiding weak churches in supporting their pastors, and the great need there is for continued evangelistic effort, affectionately commends the association to the prayerful sympathy and liberal help of the churches of the county.

The Rev. J. Harding (Temple Chapel, Taunton) seconded the resolution. The collections at these services were unusually good.

EAST DEVON EVANGELICAL ASSOCIATION.—The annual services of this association were held at Tiverton last Wednesday, and were attended, as usual, by a large number of ministers and other friends from various parts of the district. The Rev. Samuel Martin, of Westminster, preached on Tuesday evening, at Uffculme. The chapel at Tiverton is commodious and well adapted for such services, and the adjoining schools also possess every feature of convenience. The new "Memorial" class-rooms on the upper floor of the chapel were much admired. The services were preceded by a devotional meeting on Tuesday evening, when the Rev. S. J. Le Blond, of Axminster, delivered an impressive address on "The importance of united prayer for the outpouring of the Holy Spirit." The usual Sunday-school breakfast took place at half-past eight on Wednesday, after which the following addresses were delivered:—"The teacher in his class," by Mr. E. W. Gates, of Exeter; and "What is effective teaching?" by Mr. E. Heal, of the same place. Mr. J. P. Nicholls, of Exeter, was in the chair, at a full meeting of teachers in the afternoon. A profitable discussion on the subjects took place. The association sermon was preached in the morning by the Rev. Samuel Martin, of Westminster, when the chapel was crowded. Divine service was commenced at eleven o'clock; the Rev. J. Stuchbury, minister of the chapel, the Rev. W. M. Paull, of Totnes, and the Rev. J. F. Guenett, of Point-in-View, officiated. In the afternoon there was a tea-meeting, and in the evening a public meeting was held in the chapel, when addresses on the state of religion in East Devon were delivered. The Rev. W. Tetley offered the opening prayer. The Rev. J. Stuchbury, who occupied the chair, gave a brief introductory speech. The Rev. J. F. Guenett, the hon. secretary, read the report. Mr. J. P. Nicholls, the hon. treasurer, brought up the financial statement, which was very satisfactory, showing the receipts last year. (124l.) to be considerably in advance of previous years. Debts had been cleared off, and Mr. Nicholls had a surplus of 16l. in hand. Still, more money is wanted, so that a fresh agent may be started. Mr. Nicholls dwelt on the importance of the work, showing that sixteen stations were regularly supplied with lay agents, numbering forty-six, whose aggregate travelling expenses did not exceed 25l. a year—their services being quite gratuitous. The Rev. R. H. Lovell followed with an impressive address in moving the adoption of the report and the re-election of officers. The Rev. Samuel Martin, who was received with applause, then addressed the meeting. Towards the close of his address, he said:—

I abominate unspiritual Dissent; it is a loathsome thing. I am a Nonconformist not for Nonconformity's sake but for Jesus' sake. I am a Nonconformist for the sake of Him who died on Calvary—and if I could not connect my particular principles of church polity with Him, I would abandon them instantly. But I do connect them with Him. (Applause.) I don't want bishops and archbishops to come between me and an enthroned Christ. (Applause.) I don't want the Presbytery to come between me and Christ. (Applause.) I am exceedingly jealous of being guided by the echoes of my Master's voice when I can, if I will, open my ears to the voice itself. (Applause.) No echo when I can have the original voice, no being between me and Christ. I am what I am as a Nonconformist entirely upon these principles. I think that we do perfectly right when we strive to spread the Gospel and extend the truth of Christ with a firm hold of church principles, but I would have no hold of them whatever, if unconnected with Christ—the moment they are connected with Him they become dear to me. Though I might feel it right to put my head into the dust and let some one else put his foot on that head and trample it down, I cannot put my Christian principles into the dust, and let them be trampled upon.

The rev. gentleman brought his eloquent address to a close by imploring them to seek Divine guidance in their undertaking, and by praying that the coming year might be a time of peculiar and lasting blessing to the association. He resumed his seat amid great applause. Mr. Rawlinson, Rev. W. Guest, and Rev. D. Hewitt delivered interesting speeches.

The number of patients relieved at the Hospital for Diseases of the Heart, 67, Margaret-street, Cavendish-square, was 149 during the week.

Correspondence.

THE ATTORNEY-GENERAL AND CHURCH-RATES IN NEW PARISHES.

To the Editor of the Nonconformist.

SIR,—As the withdrawal of the Church Building Acts Consolidation Bill hangs up, rather than disposes of, the question whether Church-rates shall be levied in new parishes, I beg to call attention to the attempt of the Attorney-General, in his speech of Thursday night, to convince the House of Commons that no breach of faith would be involved in such an extension of the impost.

The learned gentleman points to the fact—which has not been denied—that the "Million Acts" authorised the levying of rates, and that some of the subsequent Acts are silent on the subject; while he says that he has been unable to find any declaration of Sir Robert Peel's altered views in relation to it. He, however, takes no notice of the important fact that in 1828 Sir Robert repudiated the intention that rates should be levied under the Bill of that year, and that, notwithstanding, it was opposed, and had to be withdrawn, on the ground that it would have that effect; the Bill being characterised in debate as involving "a scandalous breach of faith."

Neither does he deal with the equally relevant fact that when in 1850 a Bill was brought in to give effect to the recommendation of the Commissioners who reported on the subdivision of parishes, and it was therein proposed that Church-rates should be levied in the parishes to be thereby created, the measure was strongly and successfully opposed, Sir George Grey stating on its reintroduction in the year following, that it had been so altered as to remove the objections offered by Dissenters.

The Attorney-General has, however, the candour to admit—and the admission is surely a serious one—that "the general impression and belief was that the effect of Sir Robert Peel's legislation in 1843 differed from that of the earlier Act, and that it would not allow Church-rates to be levied in what were called the Peel parishes." That was evidently the impression of Sir George Grey when in 1856 he declared that the parishes constituted under the Marquis of Blandford's Bill would "resemble those formed by Sir Robert Peel's Act, under which it was known that no Church-rates could be levied." As a matter of mere inference, therefore, I submit that a far better case has been made out by those who insist that the modern Church-building Acts have been passed in the belief that they would not authorise the levying of Church-rates, than by the Attorney-General, who alleges that he cannot find any record of a change of purpose on the part of Sir Robert Peel.

But it is the Attorney-General's endeavour to gloss over what occurred in 1856 which is most worthy of notice, as showing that it is only by desperate special pleading that it is possible to escape the effect of the explicit declarations of the Marquis of Blandford and Sir George Grey. First of all, he tells us that the Bill of that year was not a Government measure, but that the Government only approved of it—as though that diminished the binding effect of the Home Secretary's declaration. He then adverts to the fact, that the Bill, as introduced, gave power to make rates in new parishes, but that, being referred to a select committee, the Bill "came out very much altered, and among other changes that clause had disappeared"—as though that very fact was not more significant, as showing the state of public feeling at the time, than if such a clause had never been inserted in the Bill. Next, he avers that Sir William Clay's question had relation to the second clause of the Bill, while it is another clause which is now relied on by the advocates of Church-rates—a circumstance which proves that the questioner and his allies were too easily lulled into a false sense of security, and that those who now seek to profit by the fact are not above attaining their end by discreditable sharp practice. Lastly, Sir Roundell Palmer has made the discovery that "the material clause in the Act, and which may have an important bearing on the question, does not stand now as it did when this conversation took place." That, again, if true, would prove only a lack of vigilance on the part of the opponents of Church-rates, and not the absence of that honourable understanding on which they now take their stand. But what are these added words? Simply these—"Provided always that nothing herein contained shall be taken to affect the legal liabilities of any parish regulated by a local Act of Parliament, or the security for any loan of money legally borrowed under any Act of Parliament or otherwise." That is, that where a parish had borrowed money on the security of rates it was to pay its debts—a provision precisely resembling that to be found in all the Bills of the abolitionists! Why, so far from weakening the case of Sir William Clay, such an addition must have been thought to have strengthened it; since the saving of the right to make rates in two specific cases might be fairly held to negative the right in all others. Yet Lord John Manners, on Thursday night, eagerly caught at this mare's nest of the Attorney-General, and glibly declared that "he had put the matter in the clearest light. It was upon a discussion upon the second clause that Lord Blandford spoke, and afterwards the Bill was altered. The measure must be judged by it

words, and not by a conversation upon a particular clause."

And, no doubt, this declaration of his lordship embodies the spirit and determination of the Church-rate party. Quibble as they may about what has occurred in Parliament, they cannot deny that, in the case of the great majority of the newly-erected churches, it was understood, both by Churchmen and the public at large, that they were to be maintained, as they were built, by voluntary means alone. But mere accident gives them, as they think, the chance of setting aside that understanding, and of making others share with them what they regard as the burden of repairing these churches, and of defraying the expenses of worship. Neither a feeling of honour nor a sense of justice will restrain them. With the cry of "Spoliation!" "Robbery!" and "Confiscation!" still on their lips, as they resist the efforts of Church-rate Abolitionists, they intend, if the Courts of Law will permit, themselves to commit the grossest act of extortion with which the present generation has been threatened.

It will be well for the Church of England, no less than for the community generally, if the decision of the Court of Appeal on the question now at issue frustrates their inequitable designs. But forewarned is forearmed. If that decision should be adverse to their cause, the Abolitionists will have work to do which will tax to the utmost their energies and their courage. They may congratulate themselves on getting rid of the Attorney-General's Bill; but their next Parliamentary victory will be less easily won. Let them in good time prepare themselves for the struggle, and with the determination to uproot the entire Church-rate system, both in the old parishes and in the new.

Your obedient servant,

June 13. J. CARVELL WILLIAMS.

THE LIBERATION SOCIETY AND THE PRINCIPLE OF ECCLESIASTICAL ENDOWMENTS.

To the Editor of the Nonconformist.

SIR,—An *Ex-Incumbent*, in his letter contained in your last issue, makes, inadvertently, one or two remarks which I, at any rate, am obliged to think very suggestive as to how and why it is that he cannot see the logic and equity of the bases on which the Liberation Society stands. Why, for instance, should the idea of a nation such as ours deciding by the solemn votes of its own legally-elected representatives that religion would be better sustained and less retarded in her Divine mission by being relieved of the burden of her endowments—why, I ask, should this act, or decision, remind any one of, or be in any way compared with, "the plea used in defence of the grasping courtiers of Henry VIII., that in plundering the Church they were 'easing her of the superfluous wealth by which she was encumbered'?"

If "An *Ex-Incumbent*" happened to be one of a company owning a valuable ship, which ship was said by some of the company to be all they could desire her to be, whilst the greater number were of a different opinion—feeling certain she would be safer in a storm and would make quicker voyages if she was relieved of certain portions of unnecessary weight hitherto burdening her—would he think, I say, that because those gentlemen decided to carry out their convictions, that they were therefore to be likened to a number of ruffians who a night or two before, perchance, had stealthily carried off a few of that ship's most valuable appendages. Of more importance, however, because it touches a principle of solemn import, is the other remark, to which, in as few words as possible, I will ask your permission to refer. It is this:—

"It would be a strange way of promoting health in the kingdom, to confiscate all the funded property of our infirmaries, and throw the support of those establishments entirely upon annual contributions."

The error contained in this reference to our bodily ills, is, I grieve to believe, Mr. Editor, but sadly too common. I do, however, regret extremely that it is one into which your able correspondent should have fallen. I could have hoped that so deserving an incumbent as I have reason to believe he must have been, would ere now have learned that there may possibly be a difference between that which concerns the bodily state merely, and that which affects entirely the after state—or, in other words, that there must be a difference between the *physical* and the *spiritual*.

A thousand pounds funded for Guy's Hospital may possibly benefit the suffering community to the extent of thirty pounds annually—though of that I doubt in sadly too many cases; but it is one thing for mortals like ourselves to agree about and secure the best means to heal a broken arm, and quite another to achieve the same result in the case of a wounded spirit.

I wish, Sir, I could conclude by letter with a more satisfactory feeling toward those in the Establishment represented by our friend "An *Ex-Incumbent*." I can, however, and will continue to hope and pray for the good time speedily to arrive, when men will not only believe in the spirituality of Christ's Kingdom, but where they shall be able at all times to acknowledge the same before their fellow-men.

I remain, Sir, sincerely yours,
G. D. C.

THE PROGRESS OF INDEPENDENCY IN LEEDS.

To the Editor of the Nonconformist.

SIR,—A paragraph under this heading appeared in your last impression, by which any one reading it and not knowing the town and position we Independents hold there, would think that we had made great progress during the last forty years, and Congregationalism was in Leeds in a flourishing condition. But the truth is, that, whatever progress was made, took place during the first eighteen years of the forty, and during the last twenty-two years not a single Independent chapel has been built within four miles of the centre of the town, although during that period the population of the borough has increased at least 55,000.

The population of Leeds, according to the last census, was upwards of 200,000, and as the Independents have not 7,000 sittings in all their chapels, it can be shown

that there is hardly any portion of England and Wales where the proportion of sittings to population is less than in Leeds, and there are only six counties where the proportion is so low.

Many persons who have the greatest interest in the place, and who remember with love and affection the names of Hamilton and Ely, have long mourned over the apathy and deadness that prevailed in the churches. Let us hope that that period is now over, and as it has been determined to build at least two new places of worship, renewed life and energy will take the place of the stagnation that existed.

I am, Sir, yours truly,
A LOVER OF TRUTH.

Foreign and Colonial.

THE CIVIL WAR IN AMERICA.

The Persia has brought advices from New York to the morning of June 1.

Finding General Lee's position on the South Anna very strong, General Grant made another flanking movement on Thursday night, the 26th. He withdrew across the North Anna, marched to Hanover Town, and crossed the Pamunkey at that point. Next morning, Friday, the 27th, two divisions of Sheridan's cavalry had crossed the river and occupied Hanover Town. There was some skirmishing on the 28th, but on Sunday, the 29th, the whole of General Grant's army had established itself upon a line three miles south of the Pamunkey, and therefore within a few miles of Richmond. His depot was at White House. The Pamunkey flows south-eastward, and ultimately falls into the York River at West Point. From West Point there is a railway along the north bank of the Pamunkey, which again joins that river about half way to Richmond. This is White House. It was McClellan's depot during his campaign two years ago; it is now General Grant's depot. It is directly in Grant's rear, and therefore is not liable to be attacked; it may be reached by railway as well as by water, and therefore can readily be furnished with supplies.

The *New York World* thus describes the topography of the country likely to be the scene of the next battle between Grant and Lee:—

Both armies are now in Hanover county, with the North Anna on the north and the Chickahominy on the south. Lee's army, as is announced in official despatches from General Grant, is on the Mechanicsville-road, south of the Topotomoy river, one of the tributaries of the Pamunkey, and between that stream and Hawes's Shop, with his right resting on Shady Grove. The surface of Hanover county is hilly, and the soil sandy, but there are few natural impediments to the operations of an army. Hanover Court-house, the county seat, is memorable as the scene of Patrick Henry's early career, and as the birthplace of Henry Clay. The object of Lee will be to preserve the rebel capital from the advance of General Grant, and for this reason he has selected a field which covers all the highways leading to Richmond. General Grant seems inclined to give his enemy no opportunity to move northward, and therefore has ordered the destruction of the bridges over the Little and North Anna Rivers. Lee's left—assuming that he faces to the south—is protected by the Chickahominy. The road from Hanover town crosses this stream at Mechanicsville, which is on a turnpike five miles north-west of Richmond. There is another road just in the rear of this, which also leads to the rebel capital. In moving down these roads General Grant will encounter the lines of Lee's army, and the situation is so contracted that there is little probability of another flank movement being successful. If the Chickahominy is intended by Lee as the last line of defence, the position has been well chosen. The stream itself is peculiarly adapted to defensive warfare. The river is a small one, and flows sluggishly. It divides itself into half-a-dozen streamlets, running into and out of each other at random. These water-courses occupy a space about seventy yards in width. Immense trees grow up out of the water, and the entire stream is covered by thick woods. It is a remarkable instance of a river running through and watering a long strip of woods. From each side of this woodland a flat surface extends for about half-a-mile. This is nearly always overflowed, and becomes an impassable morass. It is only when the water in the river is very low that men can safely walk upon the ground bordering it. On these flat surfaces there is not a solitary tree. They are bare, and anything moving upon them can easily be discerned. From the borders of these plains huge hills, in some cases 200 and 300 feet high, abruptly rise. They are covered with thick woods, and are so steep that waggons cannot be hauled directly up their face. The few roads go down them diagonally to the bridges across the swamp and river. This Chickahominy valley, one of the strongest in America, is the outer defence of Richmond. From the tops of the hills on the one side across the swamp to the hill-tops on the other side, the distance varies from a mile to a mile and a-half. The ordinary 12-pounder rifled Napoleon gun can just about throw a shell from one hill-top to the other. From the Fredericksburg railroad crossing down to New-bridge, a distance of eight miles, the Confederate works are all along the hills on its southern border.

Lee withdrew from the South Anna on the night of Grant's movement, and took up a position north of the Chickahominy (where he is said to have fortifications all ready), on the Mechanicsville-road, south of Topotomoy Creek, his right resting on Shady Grove. He had been reinforced by Breckenridge from the Shenandoah Valley.

On the evening of Monday, the 30th, Lee attacked Warren near Shady Grove, on Grant's left, but was repulsed with severe slaughter. To relieve Warren, Meade then ordered a general attack. Hancock alone received the order in time to attack before dark; he drove the Confederates from their entrenched line, and still held it. Burnside's whole corps had crossed the Topotomoy Creek, and made

a junction with Warren, who held a position within seven miles of Richmond.

Before the flanking movement on the 26th, Warren made a bold attack on Lee's left, while Wright with the 6th corps completely destroyed the railroad to Gordonsville for ten miles, burning the sleepers and heating and twisting the rails. The bridges were also destroyed on the Fredericksburg and the Virginia Central Railway.

Secretary Stanton announces that Butler was now acting only on the defensive, and that General Baldy Smith, with the 10th army corps, has been transferred, *via* Fortress Monroe, to the Potomac army.

On the 30th and 31st the Confederates were repulsed in an attack upon Butler's lines and on his works at Spring-hill, east of the Appatomax. Butler has, it appears certain, been directed to confine himself to a defensive rôle, and for this, his flanks being covered by the gunboats, half his present force is not necessary. The portion which has been transferred to Grant is commanded by Baldy Smith.

Sigel has been superseded for his failure on the Shenandoah, by General Hunter, who was once more about to move forward. It is thought that he will encounter little if any opposition on his way down to Lynchburg, as Lee's recent losses compelled him to call in Breckenridge, who defeated Sigel, now in Grant's front on the Pamunkey. Crook, who was to co-operate with Sigel, fulfilled his part of the programme admirably, defeating the Confederates with heavy loss south of Lynchburg, killing their general, Jones, and destroying many miles of the Virginia and Tennessee Railroad; but Sigel failing to join him, he was forced to retire.

A despatch from General Sherman states that the Confederates, discovering his intention to turn Altoona, met him near Dallas, where an engagement occurred on Saturday, May 29th, in which M'Pherson drove the Confederates back, with the loss of 2,500 killed and wounded and 300 prisoners. The Federal loss was 300. On the following Tuesday the Confederates attacked him but were repulsed, Sherman's left reaching the railroad near Marietta, the object of his movement, and about twenty miles north of Atlanta. Chattanooga papers state that General Sherman had established his headquarters at Dallas, Georgia. It is said that many of Johnston's troops had been transferred to Virginia.

The *New York* correspondent of the *Daily News* says that the confidence in Grant, great as it was, had been immensely increased by his last fortnight's manoeuvring and fighting.

The worst he has now to fear, I think, is the malaria of the region round Richmond, which may thin his ranks if he is detained very long on this side of the river. Gold still rises, slowly but steadily, owing, I think, to the great uncertainty and anxiety which still prevail. As long as Lee's army remains strong enough to keep the field, nobody ventures to look into the future with confidence enough to base business calculations on it. Business is languishing; contracts are avoided; in short, there is a general suspense, and when there is suspense people naturally hold on to gold, as the surest provision against all contingencies. The timid people all buy it, or hoard it, and this of course raises its price in greenbacks. But it is almost painful to see the tenacity with which the larger portion of the public still clings to the notion that the rise of the premium is due to the operations of the "speculators," and that at all events, if gold can be kept in the country and made "plentiful," its value measured in government paper would fall.

Banks himself had returned to New Orleans, with the title of military governor of Louisiana, but with functions strictly civil in their character. The army had passed into the hands of General Canby, who was reorganising it for a resumption of offensive operations. The extrication of Admiral Porter's gunboats, detained above the rapids of the Red River by the remarkable fall of the water, is one of the most striking events of the war. The plan of damming up the Red River, so as to raise the water in the rapids, and carry the flotilla down, was the device of Lieutenant-Colonel Bailey. The staff of engineers laughed at him, and so did almost everybody else, but the case was a desperate one, and it was resolved to let him try. He had to raise the level of the river on the shoals five feet, and the Red River is a broad and rapid stream, so his job was a tough one. The result is thus described by the correspondent of the *New York Times*:—

On the side of the river opposite Alexandria—the stream at this point being about 400 feet wide—Colonel Bailey constructed his tree dam. This was done by felling the trees which abounded on the shore, and throwing them down into the river, where their interlacing trunks and branches, aided by the natural weight of the current, were forced down to the bottom, forming an impervious obstacle to the water. On the top of these debris were thrown large loads of stone, all tending to make the mass more solid and concrete. This construction was carried out toward the centre of the river. On the opposite, or Alexandria side of the river, owing to the rocky nature of the bed, huge cribs and barges were sunk, filled with stone and rubbish, and firmly anchored; leaving a space of some eighty feet in the centre through which, when the water attained sufficient height and that portion of the obstruction was removed, the vessels all came triumphantly. Towards the end, I was informed; 2,000 men were kept employed night and day; the officers of Banks' own staff relieving each other and passing entire nights seeing the work properly pushed.

The flotilla came down—and Bailey found himself a hero. He has since been promoted to a brigadier-generalship.

There is nothing further from General Steele's army. The forces under General A. J. Smith had arrived at Vicksburg. The Confederates have several batteries on the banks of the Mississippi between Memphis and Baton Rouge, and gunboats passing are frequently

attacked. One of these batteries, near Napoleon, on the Arkansas side, recently opened fire upon the gunboat Curlew. A brisk engagement ensued, and the battery, consisting of ten 18-pounders, was silenced.

General Forrest, with 15,000 men, was reported to be near Tupelo, Miss., on the 20th ult. A portion of his force had reappeared at Union City, Kentucky, and another attack upon Paducah was indicated.

General Hunter, commanding the Department of West Virginia, has issued from his headquarters in the Shenandoah Valley a circular to the Southern sympathisers in that region, notifying them that they are regarded as Confederate spies, and that "for every train fired upon or Union soldier shot by guerillas in any neighbourhood within reach of the Federal cavalry, the houses and other property of every secession sympathiser residing within a circuit of five miles from the place of outrage shall be destroyed by fire," and that "for all public property destroyed by marauders, an assessment of five times the value of such property will be made upon secession sympathisers residing within a circuit of ten miles around the point at which the offence was committed.

The Cleveland Convention had nominated Fremont for President, and Cochrane for Vice-president, on the platform of universal freedom, maintenance of a free press, free speech, the habeas corpus, and the Monroe doctrine.

It was reported that Secretary Chase will shortly offer 75,000,000 of bonds loan of 81 to the highest bidder.

The amendment to the constitution abolishing slavery throughout the United States was brought up in the House of Representatives for a second reading, and met with strong opposition. Mr. Wilson, who introduced the amendment, refused to press the bill to a vote. The prevailing opinion was that the measure will be defeated.

A committee of the House of Representatives on Mr. Seward's correspondence on Mexico maintained the right of Congress to indicate the policy to be pursued regarding the French in Mexico.

On the 30th gold rose from 88 to 94½ prem.: on the 31st it opened at 190, but upon Mr. Chase ordering the sale of half a million of the Treasury gold, it dropped to 187½. On the 1st of June it had risen from 187½ at the opening to 188½.

It appears from the rolls of the Federal Medical Director that 28,000 men had been sent to hospitals from battle-fields in the present campaign. About 2,000 of the number were not wounded, but sick. A considerable number were rebel wounded.

THE FEDERAL AND CONFEDERATE FORCE AND LOSSES IN VIRGINIA.

The New York correspondent of the Times, in one of his recent letters, says:—

It is declared by the Government—and there is every reason to believe the statement to be true—that Grant's army at this moment, when it is about to enter upon its second series of battles, is as strong and efficient as when it crossed the Rapidan on the 2nd inst., that, whatever the number of killed, wounded, and missing, may be in the bloody battles of the Wilderness and Spottsylvania, the number has been supplied by reinforcements. But, as no account has ever yet been published of the exact numerical force of the army of the Potomac when it commenced this critical campaign, the following estimate, derived from an authority not likely to be misinformed or self-deceived, may be found of interest. It may at the same time be depended upon as being as nearly accurate as it is possible to make it:—The main army on the 2nd inst. was composed of 218,000 men, of whom more than half were veteran soldiers, in a high state of discipline and efficiency, and the remainder new and comparatively raw recruits, most of whom had never been under fire. To these are to be added 18,000 negroes, attached to Burnside's command, and 10,000 other negroes performing camp duty, but thoroughly armed and equipped. Butler's corps, operating from the peninsula, and now all but hopelessly imprisoned in entrenchments of his own rearing, numbered 35,000 men, both white and black. Sigel's corps, constituting the extreme right wing of Grant's army, operating in the valley of the Shenandoah, was 30,000 strong; and the cavalry, under Kantz, Sheridan, and others, engaged in raids in the rear of the Confederates, cutting the railroads, and doing other damage to the communications of General Lee with his bases of supply, numbered about 10,000. These various items, including infantry, cavalry, artillery, and every arm known to military duty, made a grand total of 321,000 men. The Confederate force opposed to this mighty host is not believed by those best acquainted with the resources of the South to amount to more than 170,000 men. Some estimates place the number at less than 100,000. Those who believe the higher number to be correct consider that Lee's main army is 115,000 strong; that Beauregard's command is 50,000, and Imboden's cavalry 5,000. This force, though inferior in number to Grant's, would be amply sufficient, considering its moral strength, as well as its superior knowledge of the ground, and, without disparagement of Grant's abilities, its superior generalship, not only to hold its own, but to gain the victory outside the walls of Richmond. The amount of the slain in the battle that commenced on the 5th, and ended for a while on the 15th, will probably never be known, but that the statement current last week, and for the publication of which the *Baltimore Transcript* was suppressed, that the total losses were not far short of 70,000, was not much, if at all, exaggerated, may be surmised from the following authentic figures, made up on the 16th of this month, when the army rested from its labours, and its commander took advantage of the state of the roads to recruit. On that day the number of wounded left under treatment at the temporary hospitals of

The Wilderness and Chancellorsville was	2,400
At Fredericksburg, where every house, as well as the pathway of the streets were full	12,250
At Alexandria	2,000
At Washington	12,150
At Georgetown	1,500
At Baltimore and other cities northward	3,500
Total wounded	33,800

To these have to be added the prisoners—amounting to about 5,000—and the stragglers and deserters, probably to as many more. Adding all these together the total loss to the main army of the Potomac, exclusive of the slain, will amount to 43,800. What the losses of Butler in the peninsula and Sigel in the Shenandoah Valley were in killed, wounded, and missing have not been so closely estimated; but it is conjectured that Butler's were about 8,000, and Sigel's 5,000, which, if correct, would sum up the whole loss, exclusive of the slain, to upwards of 56,000 men. From the obstinacy of the battles, and from the spirit of both armies, it is probable that the losses sustained by the Confederates were proportionately as large as those of the Federals. It is equally probable that in the conflict about to be renewed the massacre inflicted by each army upon the other will be as savage as before, and that Grant will neither overwhelm Lee, nor Lee Grant, until 150,000 shall have been killed, wounded, or taken prisoners.

THE DANO-GERMAN QUESTION.

The *Augsburg Gazette* publishes the text of the proposal made by the British plenipotentiaries in the sitting of the Conference of the 28th of last month. The British Government expresses the opinion that the basis of a sound and durable peace cannot be found in the Treaty of 1852. It acknowledges that there is something worthy of respect, both in the aspirations of the Germans, who wish to release their brethren of the Duchies from a foreign domination, and in the desire of the Danes to maintain the independence and integrity of their ancient monarchy. The British plenipotentiaries, therefore, propose, as the basis of a peace, to separate from the Danish monarchy the whole of Holstein and Lauenburg, and the Southern portion of Schleswig; drawing such a line of demarcation as shall leave the Danes the Schlei and the Dannenwerke as their frontier. It is the opinion of the British plenipotentiaries that, in the event of the King of Denmark making the great sacrifice required by this plan, the integrity of his remaining dominions ought to be guaranteed to him by the great European Powers, and that the Germanic Confederation should be required to engage not to establish fortresses or fortified ports in the territory ceded by Denmark.

An Altona paper reports that Herr von Bismark told a deputation that England proposes a division of Schleswig into three parts: the northern to be annexed to Denmark, the southern to Holstein, and the middle or mixed to be disposed of according to the result of the vote of its inhabitants.

The *Mémorial Diplomatique* asserts that Earl Russell intimated to Count Apponyi, previous to the last meeting of the Danish Conference, that if hostilities should be renewed, and the Austrians should send a fleet to the Baltic, England would be compelled to send her fleet thither likewise. Austria, it is stated, gave the mild answer which turneth away wrath. She promised not to send her fleet to the Baltic. The *Austrian Gazette* states that the British Government not merely oppose the Schleswig line of demarcation proposed by the German Powers, but even go so far as to threaten war rather than assent to it.

King Christian IX. has addressed a letter of thanks to Queen Victoria, acknowledging the sympathy evinced for him by her Majesty, and explaining his situation with a sincerity which, as he hopes, will best illustrate his embarrassments and the need he stands in of powerful support.

Many of the Notables of Copenhagen have proposed an address to the King recommending an intimate constitutional union of Schleswig with the kingdom as essential for the independence of Denmark, and denouncing a personal union of Schleswig-Holstein as destructive of the kingdom.

It is said that Russia has protested against any arrangement which might destroy the integrity of Denmark, and has announced that if her protest be unheeded she will revive her own Holstein claims. The semi-official journal of Berlin asserts that the Czar has transferred to the House of Oldenberg all the claims of the Russian Imperial family to the Holstein succession. Another candidate, it appears, is now in the field for the sovereignty of the contested Duchies, put forward by Austria, in the person of the Prince of Wassa. Thus we have Russia, Prussia, and Austria each with their protégé.

In the sitting of the Conference on Thursday last, the plenipotentiary of the Germanic Confederation made a declaration, in which he laid down the principle that no part of Schleswig can be ceded to Denmark without the consent of the population.

It is stated that the third division of the Austrian fleet will be sent immediately to the North Sea. A semi-official Prussian paper says:—"The Prussian Government has not purchased vessels in France, as stated in some of the Berlin papers, but in America, and that largely."

FRANCE.

According to the *Evening Moniteur*, the plenipotentiaries of the belligerent Powers at the Conference have agreed to meet in order to settle amicably under the auspices of one of the neutral Powers the disputed points relative to the carrying out of the armistice. The French Plenipotentiary has been chosen for this arrangement.

It is rumoured that the Emperor Napoleon met with an accident at Fontainebleau on Thursday. The story went on the Bourse that his Majesty had fallen into the lake, and received an accidental wound on the head from a boat which had pushed forward to pick him up. The report had an injurious effect upon stocks, but the Emperor has since appeared in public.

La Pommersaie, the Paris murderer, was executed on Thursday morning. Strenuous efforts had been

made to obtain a commutation of the sentence, and it is said that even the Empress joined in the appeal, but the Emperor saw no reason to extend mercy to the criminal.

M. Rénan has been formally dismissed from his office of Professor at the College of France, and the decree appointing him to the Assistant-Curatorship of the Imperial Library has been cancelled.

A dinner by several partisans of the abolition of the punishment of death, which was to have been given at Brebant's Restaurant, Paris, on Sunday, was prohibited by the police.

The *Pays* repeats what the *Constitutionnel* has said, that Denmark has made all possible concessions, and that it is now for Austria and Prussia to show a conciliatory spirit, and accept the compromise proposed by England, unless they would incur the great responsibility of breaking the peace of Europe.

A despatch from Algiers of the 9th inst. confirms the report of the death of the Marabout St. El. Azerey, one of the leaders of the insurrection. The *Moniteur* regards this event as calculated promptly to disorganise the insurrection. Telegrams from Algiers announce that additional tribes had given in their submission. The attitude of the Kabyles is pacific.

The *Pays* states that "the English Conservative party are about to call the present Cabinet to account relative to the whole of its acts since the Dano-German war. The Conservative party will, saith the same authority, openly, solemnly, and unanimously declare that the only guarantee and the only safeguard of peace remains in the General Congress proposed by the Emperor Napoleon."

Marshal M'Mahon, Duke of Magenta, is to be the new Governor-General of Algeria.

RUSSIA, AUSTRIA, AND PRUSSIA.

The Emperor and Empress of Russia arrived at Potsdam on Thursday evening, to visit the King of Prussia. The latter received them at the railway-station. A grand review was given in their honour on Friday, and a State dinner took place at night. Yesterday the Emperor and Empress of Austria were to meet the Emperor of Russia at Kissingen, and afterwards proceed to Carlsbad on a visit to the King of Prussia. The three monarchs will be accompanied by their Ministers of Foreign Affairs. It is said that Russia is endeavouring to conclude with Austria and Prussia a treaty by which the three Powers would mutually guarantee their possession of the Polish provinces.

On Monday, Herr Von Bismark received a deputation from Schleswig. He subsequently had a conference, lasting several hours, with Prince Gortschakoff, at which Counsellor Von Oubril, the Russian Ambassador in Berlin, was present.

A protracted sitting of the Council of Ministers took place in the afternoon. His Majesty the King received the Minister President and Prince Gortschakoff in the evening. The interview lasted some time.

TUNIS.

Advices from Tunis state that the vice-consuls, with the exception of that of England, had gone on board the ships of their respective nations. The Bedouins were disposed to recognise the sovereignty of the Porte, and to request the abolition of the Regency. Some of the ships in port had been assailed by Tunis pirates.

ASHANTEE.

The *Moniteur du Soir* professes to be in possession of late intelligence from the coast of Africa, from which it would appear that the British expedition against the Ashantees had met with disaster, and was in full retreat back to Cape Coast Castle. A considerable number of officers had been killed.

JAPAN.

The *Japan Herald* says:—"We have important rumours from Miako, but more or less requiring confirmation. They are to the effect that the council of Daimios having agreed upon a peaceful policy in reference to the intercourse with foreigners, have now in great measure dispersed to their provinces, leaving the charge of that policy in the hands of Etzizen and other of their numbers, who continue at Miako. The Mikado has avowed that the representation of his will for expulsion of foreigners was made without authority, and that, though previously undetermined in his mind upon the subject, he is now in favour of more extended and free intercourse."

CHINA.

The *Hong Kong Mail* of April 29th says:—"We reported in our last issue that Colonel Gordon's forces had met with a reverse, owing, no doubt, to the colonel not being able to be present in the field, in consequence of a wound received at Kintang. We have now to state that Gordon has recovered from his wound, and is again in the field. He has been successful as usual. On the 11th instant he attacked the rebels at a place called Waisoo, where they were strongly entrenched and somewhat numerous. It appears that these were the men who had left different strongholds in rebel possession, with the intention of checking Gordon's movements throughout the open territory. The idea was good enough, and the forces to whose charge the carrying out of it was entrusted were the most desperate men in the Taeping ranks, being the original rebels from Kiangsu and Hupee. The colonel began by shelling the position, and the effect of this was that their left flank was

speedily turned, upon which they began to retreat. Gordon then gave orders to charge them, which was done in a very effective manner by the Imperial troops, who seemed to be rather powerful in pursuing an enemy. The reports which have reached us state that the Taepings were rather severely cut up, the line of retreat being literally strewn with dead. Previous to the action the Taepings mustered over 15,000 strong, while the Imperialists were not more than 10,000. These rebels having been dispersed, and their return to garrison prevented, the Imperial troops next made a move upon Chang-chow-foo, which city they are now besieging. The seven officers whom we reported as missing were found dead, and their bodies have been duly interred."

THE NEW ZEALAND WAR.

In proposing a resolution in the House of Commons on Monday night regarding the New Zealand loan, the Right Hon. Mr. Cardwell gave some important information in regard to the New Zealand news brought by last mail. In the newspapers of that day, he observed, he had seen accounts which he was happy to say did not correspond with those which had reached him officially. By the present mail accounts had been received of two conflicts between our troops and the Maories. Of these conflicts one took place in the immediate neighbourhood of New Plymouth, and the other and more important at the upper part of the River Waikato in the presence of General Cameron himself. The first was admitted by all to be a success, and a success, too, achieved with the smallest possible loss, not one man having been killed and only four wounded. General Cameron and the Governor spoke of it in the highest terms. With respect to the other action, he had seen it spoken of in newspapers as a disaster occasioned by the failure of a subordinate, and only retrieved by a vigorous effort on the part of General Cameron himself. Hon. members would no doubt be glad to hear from him the accounts which the Governor of New Zealand and General Cameron gave of the conflict. He had received that morning a despatch from General Cameron, in which he said:—

I received Colonel Carey's despatch this morning. He states that 101 Maories have been killed, besides 18 to 20 reported by native prisoners to have been buried in the pah. Thirty-three have been taken prisoners—26 of them wounded. Rewi (the principal rebel) has not been found. This is the severest lesson the Maories have ever learnt, and will, I hope, have a good effect. Then, speaking of his subordinate, Colonel Carey, he went on to say:—

Colonel Carey deserves great credit for the clever manner in which he succeeded in surrounding them. Though unwilling to occupy the time of the House, he had thought it right to read that statement after the statements which he had seen elsewhere. He was now speaking of that which had taken place on the Upper Waikato, with respect to which Sir G. Grey said:—

This action, so disastrous to the natives, will, I sincerely trust, prove one great means of bringing this lamentable war to a conclusion. From the last telegram I have sent, you will find that one of its results has already been that the natives have abandoned the position at Mangatantari, which the Lieutenant-General was preparing to attack.

That fortress was yielded up without a contest, and was now in possession of our troops. The latest official information he had was couched in the satisfactory terms which he had just stated; and however it might be with regard to the engagement in which our troops were represented in the Melbourne papers as having suffered a reverse, of which the Government had no account, there could be no doubt that at the principal seat of war on the Upper Waikato the arms of General Cameron had been successful, and that that district was now in our possession, and a pacific administration he hoped in progress.

The detailed news by this mail shows that the operations in Taranaki have not been so successful, on the whole, as those in Waikato. A party composed of a hundred men were surprised on their return from a scouting expedition, and the leader, Captain Lloyd, and several men were slain. Reinforcements were quickly on the spot, and then it was found that the savages had cut off and carried away the heads of the slain.

AUSTRALIA.

The Melbourne Age of the 23rd April says:—"Once more we have to chronicle the rejection by the Upper House of a bill for the sale of the public lands. The measure was introduced by the M'Culloch Ministry to remedy the palpable blunders of the Duffy Act and to give further facilities for the settlement of the public lands, by providing for the occupation of blocks of 2,500 acres, by a system of sale and leasing combined, for pastoral purposes. The bill had the almost unanimous approval of the public. In the Lower House it encountered a very unprincipled kind of opposition. They who thought it was not liberal enough coalesced with those who considered it too liberal. And there was, furthermore, a disposition to postpone the question until after the general election, which must necessarily take place shortly. For these reasons the bill passed the Lower House by a majority of four only. Sent to the Upper, it was rejected on its second reading by seventeen to six. The conduct of the members of the council has excited the indignation of all classes. The Government have introduced a bill for the establishment of industrial schools and reformatories. A series of first-rate lectures have been delivered in St. George's Hall, in aid of a project to establish a Shakspeare scholarship in our university. The lecture will bear favourable comparison

for thought and expression with any recent utterances on this exhaustless theme. About 8000 have already been obtained towards the scholarship. The international cricket-match was continued on Saturday, in the presence of between 2,000 and 3,000 persons, and, as was expected, the game was finally drawn."

The transportation question still continues to occupy attention. The following motion has been laid on the table of the Legislative Assembly by Mr. Kyte, one of the members for East Melbourne:—

To move that the house will resolve itself into a committee of the whole to consider the propriety of presenting an address to his excellency the Governor requesting that the sum of 5,000*l.* might be placed on an additional estimate, for the purpose of defraying the expenses of exporting to Great Britain ticket-of-leave men during 1864, not exceeding 300 in number.

The Central Committee of the Anti-Transportation League of Victoria have appointed a sub-committee of four legal gentlemen to inquire into the present state of the law with respect to British convicts found in that colony, and to ascertain what amendment will more effectually empower the government to protect the colonists from the presence of such convicts. The suspension of traffic between the eastern colonies and Western Australia, except in the case of the English mail-steamer, which has to coal at King George's Sound, has been suggested, and a joint remonstrance from the eastern colonies to the Imperial Government is contemplated.

Advices from South Australia state that the first expedition to Northern Australia had left Port Adelaide. The previous month had been busily occupied by the government in preparing for this new work of settlement, and with the public generally the subject had engaged an unusual amount of interest. The total amount received in Adelaide on account of sales of land in North Australia was 44,719*l.* 6*s.* 3*d.*

There have been severe floods in Queensland, which have done much injury to the crops. Cotton had not, however, suffered so much as other produce. Bushranging was rife in the neighbourhood of Port Denison.

From New Caledonia we learn that the French have abandoned transportation to that colony.

FOREIGN MISCELLANY.

THE ALABAMA has arrived at Cherbourg, and been admitted to free *pratique*. She landed the crews of two captured Federal merchantmen, and is to be permitted to repair in dock.

PRINCE COUZA has been splendidly received at Constantinople, and marks of unusual distinction have been bestowed on him by the Sultan. In consequence of this visit, the concentration of Turkish troops on the Danube has been countermanded.

DUELING IN PRUSSIA.—Three brothers, officers of the 1st Regiment of Prussian Foot Guards, have been dismissed from the army because they avowed that duelling was contrary to the teaching of the Catholic Church, of which they were members.

THE LADY EXPLORER OF AFRICA.—We regret to announce the death of the travellers, Madame Tinné and Mr. Schubert, who have fallen as the latest victims to the murderous African climate. It will be remembered that they were endeavouring to find traces of the unfortunate African explorer, Dr. Vogel.

THE RUSSIAN AMBASSADOR has been recalled from Rome. This event has caused some sensation, as people connect it with the recent allocution of the Pope, in which Poland was alluded to in terms so likely to offend Russian susceptibilities. The connection between the two Courts will be confined simply to the despatch of business having no political character.

THE IRISH IN AMERICA.—An almost incredible statement is made that no fewer than 40,000 Irish women are at this moment wandering outcasts in New York alone—the mothers, sisters, and daughters of men who have been plied with drink and carried off to fill up the broken ranks of the Federal army.

THE FRENCH CONSPIRATORS.—Greco, who was condemned to transportation for the conspiracy against the life of the Emperor, has arrived at Marseilles, whence he will be sent to Cayenne. Imperatori and Scaglioni have been removed to central prisons, so that the only one of the four Italians now remaining at Mazas is Trabucco.

ENGLISH TRAVELLERS IN PRUSSIA.—The Police President of Aix-la-Chapelle has issued a solemn protest against the statement made by an English journal that English travellers are insulted in journeying through Prussia. A German paper alleges that the assertions have been published by the English innkeepers with a view to prevent intending travellers from proceeding abroad.

THE DUKE OF SUTHERLAND is on his way home from his yachting excursion. He returns overland, and is expected to reach London on the 17th. He called at Caprera on his return voyage, and saw Garibaldi. The General is in good health and the best of spirits, leading his old simple life, and full of grateful recollections of the kindness of his reception from all ranks and classes of the community.

THE MAHARAJAH DHULEEP SINGH.—A correspondent of the Edinburgh Courier writes from Alexandria on the 26th ult.:—"The Maharajah Dhuleep Singh is here. When passing through Cairo, on his way to India with his mother's body, he saw and fell in love with a girl at the Presbyterian Mission School, the daughter of one of the partners in a leading mercantile house, and after some hesitation on her part, the matter is settled,

and they are to be married in a few weeks. The American missionary tells me that she is one of the most beautiful girls, both in person and in character, that he has ever seen or known, and, like the Maharajah himself, is a devout Christian."

GENERAL BUTLER'S BROTHER.—In a former letter I alluded to the death, in this city, of Andrew Jackson Butler, the brother of the general, and his "pal" at New Orleans. It is well known that when this war commenced neither Butler nor his brother, individually or jointly, owned 5,000 dollars of property. The will of the brother who died in this city was admitted to probate this week, and he leaves to his brother, the General, over two millions of dollars.—Letter from New York.

FRENCH COMMISSIONERS TO AMERICA.—The Times' Paris correspondent writes:—"I hear that two delegates—one civil, the other military—have been sent by the French Government to America, for the purpose of ascertaining by personal inspection the real state and prospects of the belligerents, and to report thereon to the Emperor. It is also stated that overtures have been again made on the part of France to the English Government with a view to devise some means of putting a stop to the frightful and useless carnage between Federals and Confederates. I do not say that these overtures have been made through the usual official channels, but I have some reason to believe that the main fact is correct. What reception they have met with I cannot say."

THE AMERICAN GOVERNMENT AND THE NEGROES OF THE SOUTH.—At the meeting of the American Congregational Union recently held in Plymouth Church, Brooklyn, Mr. George Thompson, who was one of the principal speakers, said:—"I was much interested, when having an interview with Mr. Stanton the other day, to have the question put to me by him, 'Well, Mr. Thompson, when this is all over, what are we to do with the negro?' I said, 'I am glad to hear you make the inquiry, because it leads me to believe that you have given your mind to the subject, and that you are prepared with a solution of the matter.' He said, 'I am. My solution is a simple one and an easy one, which meets the justice and the necessity of the case; and that is, to put the negro on the land and make it his. (Applause.) He was bought for the land; he was chained to the land; he cultivated the land, without reaping any share of the produce of his labour; the land has been bedewed with his tears, and sometimes with his blood; and he has a right to the land. And," said Mr. Stanton, "I have endeavoured to carry out on a small scale, in South Carolina, my plan; and what is being done there on a small scale I wish to see done upon a small scale—upon a scale, commensurate at once with the rights and the claims of the negro." That is a very important question, and I think that is a very good answer to it.

FAREWELL OF THE LAST HIGH COMMISSIONER OF THE IONIAN ISLANDS.—When Sir Henry Storks, in a few graceful words in Italian, and in a voice which betrayed his emotion, bade them farewell, at least three-fourths of his audience were in tears, and many blubbered outright (for the Ionian is much given to the melting mood), as they crowded round his Excellency, shaking him by the hand, embracing him, and conferring upon him not unfrequently those salutations which Englishmen generally reserve for the other sex. Nothing could exceed the good temper with which he bore these inflictions, and even when—freed at length, as he fondly hoped, from these overwhelming demonstrations of affection—as he was descending the steps of the palace, an elderly, fat gentleman approached him from behind, and, flinging his arms about his neck, gave him half-a-dozen smacking kisses, there was not a shade of impatience mingled with the expression of surprise at this unexpected honour. As he passed to the place of embarkation, every man in that dense crowd respectfully uncovered, and a running fire of "Zito's" marked his progress,—interspersed now and then with a cordial "Good-bye, and God bless you, Sir!" in an English voice; and when he entered his barge and was rowed away under the last English salute from the batteries, there arose a parting cheer more loud and more hearty than I should have believed Ionian lungs capable of uttering.—Letter from Corfu.

WORKING OF THE REVISED CODE.

(From the Daily News.)

The annual "Report of the Committee of Council on Education," which has just appeared, is this year of peculiar interest, as giving the first results obtained under the operation of the Revised Code. After the animated debates that inaugurated the change, and the wide difference of opinion as to its details which still exists, this first official record of its working is sure to be carefully scrutinised by all who are practically interested in elementary education. It is true that the report only partially illustrates the working of the new system, the Revised Code not having come into operation until July 1, 1863. Last year was accordingly a year of transition, the inspection of schools having taken place partly under the old system and partly under the new. The results already obtained enable us, however, to estimate fairly enough how far the new system is likely to realise the expectations of its friends and fulfil the promises of its authors. The new code was recommended to Parliament and the country on the ground that its provisions would at once effectually protect the expenditure of public money on elementary education, and secure a far higher degree of efficiency than had hitherto been attained in the assisted schools. In both these important respects, the results hitherto obtained promise well, though it is only in relation to the first point, that of economy, that we can as yet have positive, and therefore satisfactory, evidence. So far as efficiency is concerned, the

first application of the new code could, in the nature of the case, hardly do more than reveal the shortcomings of the present system, and we must wait for the returns of next year in order to estimate fairly the ameliorating effect of its provisions on the quality of the teaching in elementary schools. The examinations under the new system sufficiently show how greatly its more stringent provisions were needed, and how salutary the results of its operations were likely to prove.

It appears from the report that the practical application of the new code during last year effected a very sensible reduction in the annual amount of the grant for education. While, as compared with 1862, the number of schools inspected and of children taught had largely increased, there was a net decrease in the amount of the grant of 53,351*l*. Part of this decrease is due to a reduction in the grant for building schools, and this reduction cannot, of course, be wholly referred to the operation of the Revised Code. On this head it is satisfactory to find that, while there has been a large reduction in the amount of public money expended in the building of schools, there has been no corresponding reduction in the number of children for whom these schools have been provided, or in the amount of voluntary contributions from the promoters of these schools. While the public grant for this purpose was reduced to nearly one-half the amount of the previous year, the donations in the voluntary contributions were less than a third. This certainly seems to show that a stricter economy of the public funds has the effect of stimulating instead of diminishing local and voluntary efforts. The chief reduction effected during the past year was not in the grant for buildings, but in the grant for the maintenance of elementary schools. In this larger and principal department of expenditure the decrease amounted to 37,143*l*, or seven per cent. of the whole grant, the reduction being directly due to the operation of the Revised Code. A comparison of the two systems, as illustrated by the official returns, shows that while under the old code the rate of the grant for each scholar was 10*s*. 6*d*., under the new code it is reduced to 8*s*. 1*d*. The Committee are, however, of opinion that accidental circumstances in the first application of the new code have tended to make the reduction per head greater than it is likely to be hereafter, when the system has come into full and active working. The Government outlay for each school under the new system they estimated at 9*s*. 3*d*., and the present reduction is, therefore, about 15*d*. per head. With upwards of a million children under instruction in the assisted schools this reduction will effect a very important annual saving in the vote for education, which has of late years risen with almost inexorable rapidity. It need hardly be said that this reduction of expenditure does not of necessity involve any diminution of vigour or efficiency in the assisted schools. The Committee are however careful to guard against the supposition that, because a school receives a smaller grant under the Revised than under the previous Code, it must be less efficient than it was, or at all likely to become so. The principal part of the grant to each school under the new code depends on the proved proficiency of individual scholars, the grant falling or rising just in proportion as few or many of the scholars evince the required proficiency. Under the old code no such system of adjustment existed, the grants being either paid or withheld in full, the latter alternative being of rare occurrence, and only resorted to in cases of extreme incapacity or neglect. It is clear, therefore, that deficiencies of teaching, which could not fairly have called for the extreme penalty of prohibition under the old system, might effect a considerable reduction in the amount of the grant under the new system. As this reduction is thus no proof of present deterioration, so neither does it encourage any prospect or probability of future failure for lack of the customary means. More than three-fourths of the grant under the old system was appropriated to pupil and certificated teachers, and the salary of these being wholly paid by the Government, the number of them in each school might be pushed to a maximum without any increase of expense to its local funds. This maximum was, in fact, almost everywhere reached, the Government outlay in many cases being extravagant, out of all proportion to the actual requirements of the locality. At the outset there was a justification for this liberal expenditure of public money which no longer exists. "At the time (1846) when the grants for pupil and certificated teachers first began to be offered, they were justifiable. Good organisation of elementary schools had to be taught by example. If the grants offered had not been liberal, school managers would not have ventured on an experiment, and had grants not been appropriated to particular details, the experiment would not have taken the desired direction. The inevitable tendency to extravagance in the use of the means so offered was of minor importance, until the object had been realised, that is to say, until the managers and promoters of schools had become familiar with the type proposed to them, and satisfied to adopt it. But as soon as that point had been reached, it became the duty of those to whom the administration of the public fund for education was entrusted to insist upon conditions that offered greater guarantees for economy, and freed contracts between managers and teachers from interference by the State. For these reasons we regard a certain reduction in the rate of the public expenditure as quite consistent with a sustained efficiency of the schools upon which it is made."

With regard to the general results of these first examinations under the Revised Code, it has certainly in the main established the necessity of some such measure of reform. Out of an average attendance of 280,475 scholars, 180,000 were presented for examination. Of these, 12 per cent. failed in reading, 14 per cent. in writing, and 23 per cent. in arithmetic. This is the total, excluding all distinctions of age as of the different standards of examination. On looking into the details, it appears that the older scholars, who ought to have made the best figure, were comparatively deficient. The scholars above ten years of age, who, according to the report of the commissioners, ought to pass standard 6, constituted 38 per cent. of the children presented for examination. Only 14 per cent. ranked above standard 3, and of these only 10 per cent. passed. "In other words, the aggregate number of children who passed standards 4, 5, and 6, was little more than one-fourth of those who ought to have been able to pass standard 6." This result sufficiently shows that the severe and searching examination of the Revised Code was necessary to test the efficiency of the teaching in these schools,

THE CONFERENCE.

The plenipotentiaries reassembled on Thursday last, when the prolongation of the armistice for a fortnight was agreed to.

The *Daily News* says:—"At the meeting yesterday (Thursday) the Danish plenipotentiaries placed themselves completely in accord with the neutral Powers, and have accepted in its integrity the proposal formally made by the mediating Powers on the 23rd of May. The conciliatory movement on the part of one belligerent has not, however, been met in a similar spirit by the other. The German Powers still insist on their own line, and will not, apparently, hear of any modification. This line includes a large district where Danish alone is spoken; all the chief towns of Schleswig, in many of which the German element is even less than in our own manufacturing towns; and what is perhaps more important than all, the only defensible frontier of the peninsula. There is little prospect that the additional fortnight of suspended hostilities will be turned to any good account. It is, indeed, not improbable that the Conference may break up even before this new lease of its peace, if not mischievous, existence has expired."

The *Times* says:—"We are sorry to say as yet no progress has been made with respect to the matters in dispute, and that it is very possible that on the 26th the campaign will once more open, and the possession of the debated territory be left to the decision of the sword."

The *Daily Telegraph* states that the sitting was more stormy and less satisfactory, if possible, than any of its predecessors. The only shadow of a basis of a compromise which has yet been arrived at is a sort of vague understanding that part of Schleswig may be detached from Denmark. A further suspension of hostilities for a period of fourteen days gives some hope of preliminary arrangement being arrived at by the Conference within that period.

Postscript.

Wednesday, June 15, 1864.

AMERICA.

(Per the City of Baltimore, *via* Crookhaven.)

NEW YORK, June 4 (Morning).

General Grant's despatches down to Thursday morning report no general engagement.

The War Department announces that no later despatches have been received, assigning as a reason that a storm had disarranged the telegraphic communication.

Heavy firing was heard on Thursday at White House, leading to the belief that an engagement was progressing.

Sherman continues his advance. On Wednesday he was beyond Dallas. His cavalry occupied Altoona Pass.

The *Richmond Examiner* states that the Confederates repulsed Howard's corps of Sherman's army the previous Saturday, with the loss of from 5,000 to 7,000 men.

The Secretary of the Treasury has announced that he will receive sealed tenders until 16th June for 75,000,000 *dols.* of Six per Cent. Bonds, redeemable in 1881.

Money lighter. Gold 91 premium. Exchange on London, 207 to 209.

(Per the Peruvian, *via* Greenock.)

NEW YORK, June 3 (Evening).

On Wednesday evening Grant ordered Wright's corps, supported by Smith, to attack the Confederate position at Cold Harbour; Hancock, Burnside, and Warren being in readiness to advance their front. After a three hours engagement Wright captured and held the Confederate works in his front. An unsuccessful endeavour was made by the Confederates to recapture them.

Sheridan defeated the Confederate cavalry and Clingman's infantry at Cold Harbour on Tuesday.

Burnside's corps advanced on Wednesday, and was within a mile of Mechanicsville.

Lee occupies a good position north of the Chickahominy. He has been joined by a large portion of Beauregard's troops.

Fitzhugh Lee, with 500 cavalry, is reported to have been captured while attempting a raid on White House.

The Confederates attacked Butler's left on Wednesday, but were repulsed.

A Confederate ironclad attacked the Federal Monitors in James River, but was driven up after a two hours' engagement.

The Confederates have erected formidable batteries on the Mississippi, and burnt several steamers.

The Federals are being driven out of Arkansas by the Confederates.

Gold opened this morning at 92½, but declined to 90½ *pm.* under the announcement of new financial measures by the Government.

JUNE 4, Evening.

Despatches from General Grant, dated yesterday afternoon, state:—"Early this morning we assaulted the enemy, driving him into his entrenchments, but gaining no decisive advantage. Our troops occupy a position within fifty yards of the enemy, and are there remaining. We captured over 300 prisoners. Our loss is not severe."

Other official despatches state that the Federal loss was 3,000 killed and wounded. Three colonels were killed, and two wounded. General Tyler was severely wounded.

General Forrest's cavalry is said to be at Corinth, preparing for a raid in General Sherman's rear.

The Federal Government have announced that they are prepared to pay in advance the interest on the public debt due on July 1. They have also raised the interest on temporary deposits to 6 per cent.

The steamer *Caledonia* has been captured.

Money easy. Gold, 92 premium.

(From the *Times* Correspondent.)

It is reported that General Hunter in Northern

Virginia, Crooke in Western Virginia, Pope with the Army of the North-West, and A. J. Smith, with 20,000 men, lately from the Red River, have been ordered to reinforce the Potomac army.

Sherman reports under date June 2, 9.30 *p.m.* that Macpherson was confronting the enemy at New Hope Church; that Stoneman's cavalry had possession of Altoona Gap, and that Schofield and Hooker were pushing forwards to Marietta. Mr. Stanton states that other movements were in progress, which, for prudential reasons, he withholds from publication.

One of the Confederate ironclads at Richmond descended James River to Bermuda Hundred on a reconnaissance, and attacked the Monitors on the morning of the 1st. After an engagement lasting two hours she returned to Richmond. The extent of damage to the ironclad or Monitors is not reported.

Four Federal torpedoes accidentally exploded at Bachelor's creek, North Carolina, on the 27th ult., killing and wounding upwards of 70 soldiers.

Richmond journals claim a Confederate victory, with great loss to the Federals, in the battle between Johnston's and Sherman's forces on the 28th of May.

LATEST CONTINENTAL NEWS.

The Emperor returned to Paris on Monday evening. He received Baron von Budberg yesterday morning. The Emperor presided at a Cabinet Council.

Some of the Paris evening papers assert that at the next meeting of the Conference England is to propose a new line of demarcation in Schleswig, which is to traverse the mixed districts; but they add that Denmark has already declared that she can concede nothing north of the line of the Danewerke.

News received from Poland through Germany gives a hideous picture of the severities practised in some districts by the Russian authorities. Men, women, and children, are described as being driven, literally half naked, to Siberia.

Some demonstrations against the Papal Government have taken place in Rome, and led to the arrest of several persons.

YESTERDAY'S PARLIAMENT.

In the House of Lords last night Earl GRANVILLE moved the concurrence of the House in the message of the Queen recommending the grant of 20,000*l*. to Sir Rowland Hill. After some remarks from Lord BROUGHAM and the Marquis of CLANRICARDE, the motion was agreed to.

Several measures were advanced a stage, and the House adjourned at half-past seven o'clock.

The House of Commons had a morning sitting yesterday. Mr. BRUCE moved the second reading of the Factory Acts Extension Bill, the object of which is to extend the provisions of those acts as regards the employment of children to the pottery, lacier match, percussion caps, and cartridge trades. He entered at great length into the reasons why legislation on the subject was necessary, and pointed out other trades as to which inquiries were being made with a view of legislation. A long discussion followed, after which the bill was read a second time, and ordered to be committed on Thursday.

At the evening sitting Mr. BERKELEY gave notice that on the 21st inst., instead of moving for leave to bring in a bill relating to the ballot, he should move a resolution declaring it expedient to adopt the vote by ballot.

Mr. S. KERCOURT gave notice that on Monday next he should move a resolution with a view of reversing the decision as to holding the West Riding assizes at Leeds.

Mr. B. OSBORNE gave notice that he would on the first occasion of going into committee of supply call attention to the publication of the proceedings of the Conference in the newspapers.

In reply to Mr. D. Griffith, Lord PALMERSTON stated that it was competent for the Conference to prolong the armistice if it thought fit to do so.

Mr. HUBBARD moved—

That the inequalities and injustice attending the operation of the existing property and income-tax disqualify it for being continuously reimposed in its present form as one of the means of levying the national revenue.

Mr. WHALLEY supported the motion, but argued that the income-tax should be abolished and the necessary funds raised by a property-tax. The CHANCELLOR of the EXCHEQUER ridiculed the proposal of Mr. Whalley, and argued that, though the present system of levying the income-tax was full of inequalities and solecisms, the new system proposed by the mover of the resolution was equally full of objections. The difference was that the people were now habituated to the inequalities of the present system; whereas, if the proposed plan were adopted, its inequalities would be new to them. After some words from Mr. BOVILL and Sir S. NORTHCOKE, the House divided, when the motion was negatived by 57 votes to 28.

Sir H. CAIRNS moved that the rules sanctioned by the Irish Education Commissioners in November, 1863, are, so far as regards the aid afforded to convent and monastic schools, at variance with the principles of the system of national education. He supported the motion in a speech of some length. Mr. DAWSON seconded it. Mr. O'HAGAN opposed the motion, and after some discussion the debate was adjourned.

The House adjourned at twenty minutes to two o'clock.

Yesterday afternoon the Princess of Wales held a Drawing-room, the last of the season, on behalf of the Queen.

The Conference will meet again to-morrow, instead of to-day, as arranged.

THE EGHAM RAILWAY ACCIDENT.—The adjourned inquest on the sufferers by the railway accident at Egham was held yesterday. Some very important evidence was taken. It was shown that the two trains between which the collision took place were started within five or six minutes of each other, and that while the first was stopped at Egham the second ran at a high rate of speed into the station. The inquest was adjourned. Colonel Yolland was present on behalf of the Government.

MARK-LANE.—THIS DAY.

The supply of English wheat on the stands to-day, was very small; nevertheless, the trade for all qualities was in an active state. Monday's currency was, however, supported. With foreign wheat, the market was but moderately supplied. However, sales progressed slowly, at late rates.

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The Nonconformist.

WEDNESDAY, JUNE 15, 1864.

SUMMARY.

On Thursday last the Conference agreed to the prolongation for another fortnight of the armistice between the belligerents in the Duchies, but were able to come to no agreement on the boundary question. Diplomacy between the several Courts of Europe is actively at work, but the adjournment of the next meeting of the Conference from to-day till to-morrow is a proof that no arrangement has yet been made. The visit of the Emperor of Russia and his chief Minister to Berlin will perhaps help to moderate the pretensions of M. von Bismark, who is striving to secure the largest portion of Schleswig for Germany, in opposition to the mediating Powers, who have induced Denmark to agree to the line of the Schlei, but giving up the port of Eckernforde. M. Beust, the representative of the German Diet, wishes to consult the population of the disputed territory as to their final disposal by taking their votes, not simultaneously but piecemeal. He would divide the soil into a series of zones, and take the popular suffrage in each zone. The plan seems more ingenious than practicable. Whether Prussian pertinacity will overcome the resolution of the neutral Powers; whether the population of Schleswig will be allowed to dispose of themselves, or be offered the semblance of a vote; and whether the Prince of Augustenburg or the Grand Duke of Oldenburg will become the sovereign of the new German Duchy, are matters of pure speculation: but it is increasingly probable that some plan will be at length assented to by the belligerents without a renewal of hostilities.

In another column we have commented on the extraordinary and blundering tactics of the Conservative leaders in attempting to make political capital out of the Dano-German complication. Our anticipations of its issue have already been realised. The plot, says the *Daily News* of this morning, "has broken down, and been abandoned by its authors in sheer despair." "If we are correctly informed, the scheme has failed through the refusal of a large number—it is said as many as sixty—of the most respectable members of the Conservative party to have anything to do with a movement for turning a national reverse to party profit." This is a heavy blow to the prestige of the Opposition, and a sign of disunion and weakness, which seems almost to insure the unmolested continuance of Lord Palmerston's Government in power for at least the remainder of the Session. Mr. Disraeli has played his last card, and it is not a trump.

The select committee which have sat so long to inquire into the administration of the relief of the poor, have at length made their report. They are unanimously in favour of the existence and continuance of a central Board, and placing that Board on a permanent footing; of securing to every child in a workhouse religious instruction, in accordance with the persuasion of the father, if known, or of the mother where that of the father is unknown; and of remunerating the ministers attending children not belonging to the Established Church, where they are sufficiently numerous. This is carrying out the principle recognised in the Prison Ministers' Bill. The committee further recommend that the casual and houseless poor of London shall be chargeable to a rate assessed upon the whole of the metropolis. They further suggest that the equalisation of the poor's rate in London is deserving of serious consideration, and "that any measure for extend-

ing the area of rating should embrace provisions for making the whole cost for the poor in each union chargeable to the common fund of the union." This last recommendation, which is a step towards an equal metropolitan rate, is of great importance as affecting the moral and social welfare of the population of London, though we fear it is not likely for some time to be embodied in a legislative act. The report has come too late for consideration this Session, and with a general election impending, legislation is likely to make little progress next year.

The campaign in Virginia has assumed a new aspect, without materially altering the relative positions of the belligerents. Finding General Lee's defensive works at the angle where the North and South Anna Rivers unite, too strong for attack, General Grant has made another flank movement, and stationed his army in front of the Pamunkey, with one wing extending to within seven miles of Richmond, and his base at White House on the York River. The destruction of the bridges on the Fredericksburg railway indicates that the Federal General has no intention to return to Washington by that route. These operations show either that Grant is a better tactician than his adversary, or that his strength is vastly superior to Lee's. The latter, however, occupies as formidable a position on the Chickahominy as those evacuated at Spottsylvania and on the Anna rivers, while the former has, by his last movement, put himself in communication with Butler, who is entrenched at Bermuda Hundred, on the James River. By the last accounts, June 4th, it would appear that a general engagement had begun. Both sides had been reinforced, though judging from the past no battle decisive of the campaign was likely to be fought. Sherman continues his advance into Georgia, which a reverse reported, perhaps magnified, by the Richmond papers, does not seem to have arrested, and was making as fast as possible for Atlanta, the Confederate depot and railway junction.

THE IMPENDING STRUGGLE FOR THE TREASURY BENCH.

It is currently reported and generally believed that within a few days a grand trial of party strength will come off in the House of Commons. The Conservative leaders are said to be agreed with their supporters on the opportuneness of the present time to pass a vote of censure on the Ministry. A resolution to this effect, we are told, has been framed, general and abstract in terms, but well adapted to command the assent of various parties. Indeed, it was anticipated that before this, a notice of it would have been upon the books. If the rumour be well founded, the battle will be fought next week, at the end of which it is imagined there will probably be an announcement of the retirement of Lord Palmerston, or of the dissolution of Parliament. We have no special source of information at our command, and therefore we cannot say that the threat, if there has been one, will not be acted upon—but if it be, it will only add one more proof to many previously given, of the hopeless incapacity of the Conservative chiefs as political strategists.

There are three main questions upon which the recent policy of Lord Palmerston's Government might be challenged—the Dano-German question, the non-recognition of the Confederacy of America, and Parliamentary Reform. The time has not come, because the data are not furnished, for pronouncing an adverse judgment on the first. The second has been so decidedly settled by public opinion that whoever seeks to disturb that decision must be under the influence of a fatal propensity to run his head against a wall. The last is a dangerous question for the Conservatives to handle. No doubt, individual members of all the Parliamentary sections may be found who disapprove of Lord Palmerston's treatment of one or other of these questions, and if they were all to unite, at the invitation of the Conservative leader, they might constitute a majority. But men can seldom be got to unite in an abstract complaint which may serve to express their disapprobation, with others who intend by the use of precisely the same terms to condemn what themselves highly approve, unless they can see their way to some desirable practical result of voting their dissatisfaction together. If the ground of that dissatisfaction be specifically stated, differing parties may combine to express it. Or if a definite line of policy be proposed as a substitute for that which is being pursued, they may assent to vague words for the purpose of reaching a practical end; but an abstract form of complaint associated with nothing whatever in the shape of promise, is about the unlikeliest device we ever heard of for enticing heterogeneous bodies into united action. We should

take the plan to be Mr. Disraeli's—it is at once so artfully designed, and so utterly impotent. We doubt if it will entrap a couple of Liberals—we believe it will offend thrice that number of Conservatives.

We suppose the Dano-German question will be the *cheval de bataille*—the two others can only be relied upon by the Opposition to catch a stray vote here and there among crotchety Liberals. But only think of laying your ground for a vote of censure in the absence of all authentic materials for forming a conclusion. The Conference of Plenipotentiaries is yet sitting, and Parliament knows nothing as yet of what it has done, is doing, or is about to do, except that it established an armistice and, when it had run out, prolonged it. No doubt, information of its proceedings has appeared in foreign journals and been copied into our own, but for ought the House of Commons knows to the contrary, it may all be fictitious, or so distorted as to beget a false impression. Even if it be all true, it resembles at present an unfinished debate the upshot of which no one can confidently predict. Well, it is proposed to proceed upon this non-authentic intelligence to condemn the course pursued by her Majesty's Ministers, to oust them from their places, to put a stop to international negotiations, and, in effect, to throw the whole quarrel back again into its original state, in order to do what? Not to resent the tyranny of Austria and Prussia—not to assist the Danes—not to remove existing impediments to peace by proposals which will be acceptable to both belligerents—but to put Mr. Disraeli and his associates on the Treasury bench, where he will probably pursue precisely the same policy as his predecessors, no other reasonable one being left open to him. We can only say that if a British House of Commons can be persuaded so to stultify itself, it has sunk much lower into moral degradation than its bitterest enemies would have believed of it on any less convincing evidence.

Does Mr. Disraeli imagine that he can go to the country with effect on any but a well-defined home and foreign policy? Of course, he calculates upon an adverse vote being followed by a dissolution of Parliament. What is to be his rallying cry at the hustings? War with Germany? Recognition of the Confederate Government? A Conservative Reform Bill? Or all three? Or will he go to it simply with the cry of Lord Derby for Premier? If the latter, he should have waited until the natural demise of the present Parliament, when there might have been a chance of making the general election turn upon merely nominal pretences. But this his alleged course of Parliamentary strategy will render impossible. There is no enthusiasm among the Liberals for the policy of Lord Palmerston, and, in ordinary times, and under ordinary conditions, the experiment might have been made to upset his Administration with some prospect of success. But the blind folly of the Conservatives will give the Premier an unlooked-for chance. If he is condemned, he will be condemned unheard—for, of course, even to save himself, he will refuse to give information whilst the deliberations of the Conference are yet without issue—he will be condemned for perseverance in his attempt to make peace—he will be condemned for the duplicity of Austria, the violence of Prussia, the reticence of France, the frigid but astute indifference of Russia—against all which influences he is struggling. What a handle will be furnished to his partisans by these facts. The appeal will be made with irresistible effect on his behalf in terms like the following:—"Will Englishmen allow an old servant to be knocked down when his hands are tied, when he is labouring to preserve for his own countrymen the blessings of peace, and when he is contending with difficulties for which foreign Powers are alone responsible?" Why, such an appeal, urged as it will be by the Liberal press, will destroy the only chance which the Conservatives have of returning to office.

The movement strikes us as such an egregious blunder, that we hesitate to believe it can have been seriously intended. It is a blunder in form—it is a blunder in time—it is a blunder in substance. There may be some explanation of it with which we are unacquainted, and which may serve to show that it is the least of two evils—better, at all events, than an immediate and open split. Otherwise the whole thing wears the aspect of having been arranged by some one who has a bee in his bonnet. We doubt not that Lord Palmerston will hail the project with delight. It is just of a piece with his singular run of luck. His worst foes help to sustain him, and convert his lukewarm supporters into his enthusiastic friends. He would probably have met with a fall before now, but that he has the good fortune to be opposed by a clever, scheming, unpractical genius—a man better qualified to invent incidents for a novel, than to originate a policy for a political party, or a State.

NEW ZEALAND.

THERE would seem to be but little probability—if the intelligence brought home by the last mail is to be taken as a reliable indication—that the war with the insurgent Maories is approaching its conclusion. The rebels, as we conventionally designate them—but who, if they could achieve success would be described as the patriots—would find it difficult, perhaps, to muster five thousand fighting men under the most favourable conditions—and, we believe, we have a military force there, under General Cameron, of double that number. As to equipments, no comparison can be made—all the advantages in that respect are with us. We gain victories—we capture pabs or compel the native warriors to evacuate them—we kill ten men to every one that we lose—but it is by no means certain that two or three more campaigns will not be necessary before peace is restored. The explanation is that the stage on which the struggle is being carried on is unfavourable to customary European methods of warfare. A densely wooded district in which there are no roads is not easily overrun—is, indeed, almost impracticable, save where it is intersected by rivers which are the only highways for troops on the offensive. Possibly, after a most unreasonable expenditure, both of life and of money, we shall discover that our system is inapplicable, and that it is an error to proceed in a colony like New Zealand on expectations adapted only to European civilisation. We claim the Maories as the subjects of New Zealand—and we found that claim upon bases the strength of which they are hardly likely to recognise. We do wrong to look to them for the same strict loyalty as we may fairly demand from our own countrymen. They cannot all at once be made to comprehend it. The country is wide enough to hold both them and us—nor is there any insuperable objection to allowing them a sufficient breadth of it, under merely nominal subjection, within which they might be practically independent, governed by their own chiefs and ruled by their own laws. Suppose we could make good our title to own the whole country, there is no necessity to take present possession of it all, or to bear ourselves towards the natives as if they were ousted of their rights. We cannot make them wear, at our pleasure, the garments of our civilisation—and the attempt to force it prematurely upon them is certain to be attended with great trouble and expense to ourselves, great injustice and cruelty to them.

The latest intelligence from New Zealand is not reassuring. Our troops have gained some advantages, but at no little cost. But the main result would appear to be a conviction, on the part of the colonists, that the war is not near its close. Now, whatever may be the merits or the demerits of the disputes in which it originated, one cannot help thinking that peace might be re-established upon mutually advantageous terms, if we did not regard it as a point of honour to conquer a peace by force of arms. We are a strong nation, and we have to do with comparatively feeble, though high-spirited tribes. We are a civilised nation, and we have to do with a semi-barbarous race. We are an aggressive and encroaching nation, and the people with whom we have to contend believe themselves to be injured by our encroachments. It is not in this case, as in some others, that the land is too narrow for the comfortable sustenance of both races. Surely, it would be within our power, if it were also our disposition, to offer arrangements by which, without detriment to the colonists, the struggle might be put an end to. There is no need to stand upon our prestige where the odds are so fearfully against the rebels. They may once have indulged a hope of driving us out of the country; but their present impulse appears to be one of patriotic desperation. Men, in their extremity, are not incapable of being approached on the side of their own interests; and we should be glad to hear that the New Zealand authorities had resolved to try the effect of equitable overtures and dispassionate negotiation.

On the whole, we are satisfied that the disposition of the home authorities is against pushing the claims of mere power to extremities. The tone of Mr. Cardwell, the Secretary of State for the Colonies, is creditable to him. The Colonial Government have despatched hither their financial secretary to obtain, if possible, the consent of the Imperial Legislature, through the intervention of her Majesty's Ministers, to guarantee a loan of 3,000,000*l.*, on the security of the New Zealand revenue, which shows a surplus of annual income over expenditure of above 200,000*l.* Mr. Cardwell, in part has acquiesced. He applies to Parliament for a guarantee of 1,000,000*l.* But he does so on the following conditions, said to be cordially assented to by Mr. Wood on behalf of the colony. The whole debt due from the colony to the Imperial trea-

sure, amounting at the present time to about half a million sterling, is to be repaid at once. After the present year, the colonists will have to bear the expense of all the English troops which their necessities may require, with the exception of a single regiment, or, as Mr. Cardwell puts it, "an arrangement with regard to the troops furnished by the mother country to the colony, fair and reasonable in itself, is to be substituted for that nominal and inequitable arrangement which has hitherto prevailed," and finally, "the Colonial Minister has engaged, on the part of himself and his colleagues, that they will cordially co-operate with the Governor in that policy towards the natives which has been prescribed to him by the Government at home," and which met with the approval of the House of Commons.

Now we do not pin our faith implicitly upon promises of good conduct made by borrowers. But we do trust that when the expense of quarrelling with the natives will have to be borne by the colonists of New Zealand, and not by the mother country, public opinion over there, and the tenor of legislation, will be more pacific than they have been. People become much more moderate when they cease to have access to other people's purses to pay for the wars of their own making. It is not impossible that with this prospect before them, the New Zealand Government and colonists will bethink them whether it is absolutely necessary to prolong the armed strife which now rages in the Northern island, and will devise some means of closing it by other means than those of arms, if possible. May this be the result of the favour shown them by the Secretary of the Colonies!

NOTES OF THE SESSION.

ON Wednesday last the House of Commons presented an unwonted spectacle. It was the field day of the United Kingdom Alliance, whose zeal in promoting their Permissive Bill is unquestionable. The gallery was crowded with the supporters of the measure, who had come to witness the result of their laborious preparations out of doors; and no small portion of the members of the House were armed with petitions, the presentation of which occupied a considerable time. A Bill supported by some half-a-million of the population could not fail to obtain respectful attention; and Mr. Lawson, who has many personal qualifications to be the Parliamentary exponent of outdoor opinion, was patiently listened to in his opening address. When he described the multiplied evils that flow from intemperance, he was on safe ground. No one could deny that drunkenness was the besetting vice of our industrial population, or that its cessation would be an inestimable blessing. Mr. Lawson and his friends look more to the removal of temptation by legislative means than to the long and wearisome task of changing a national habit, and therefore ask Parliament to enact that in any parish where two-thirds of the ratepayers are opposed to the granting or renewal of licences for the sale of intoxicating liquors, they shall not be issued. In the debate which followed, Mr. Lawson's plan was shown, even by those most friendly to the object in view, to be futile as regarded drunkards, and unjust to the sober; as likely to be the source of continual strife and irritation; to be in practice unworkable; an intolerable tyranny of the majority of a parish over the minority; and as affecting thousands of persons, and millions of property, in a manner wholly distinct from legislation, which Parliament had never sanctioned with regard to any other description of trade or industry. Sir George Grey declared that the proposal contained in the Bill *could not* be carried into effect, and that if it were practicable, the consequences would be most injurious. But the Home Secretary, while admitting with many other speakers the injurious action of the present licensing system, had no remedy to offer; and thus, while the Government declines to propose any change, it is the less surprising that so extreme a measure as the Permissive Bill should be propounded.

Mr. Bright, who made the most powerful and elaborate speech against the principle and tendencies of the Bill, and who eloquently dwelt upon the increasing sobriety of the population, and pointed to the progress of improvement and education as the best permanent remedy for drunkenness, threw out the practical suggestion that the power of granting licences should be transferred from the magistracy to municipal corporations; and Mr. Forster, who objected to delegate such a power to town councils as much as to ratepayers, proposed to admit the ratepayers in the immediate neighbourhood to some voice which would affect the decision of the magistrates in granting licenses, care being taken that they should not be enabled to stop all facilities for the sale of liquors. But neither of these suggestions met with much favour. The House was not in

the mood to listen to any legislative remedies for drunkenness, during the present Session at least. Mr. Lawson obtained as many as thirty-five votes in support of the second reading of his Bill; but the drift of the debate was far more damaging to the plan he proposed than the overwhelming majority (292) which went into the opposite lobby.

An important debate in the House of Lords on Thursday, was raised by Lord Clanricarde, on the question of the enlistment of British subjects by the Federal Government, both in Canada and in Ireland. Of the fact that thousands of Irishmen have been inveigled into the United States army—many having been forcibly enlisted under the influence of intoxicating liquor—there is no question. But we were not prepared for so remarkable a statement as was made by the noble marquis, and not denied by the Government. He said that "about 5,000 men, chiefly bachelors, were now embarking every week at Cork for America, that they were provided with free passages paid for in greenbacks, and that as soon as they landed they were either put on board American ships of war or sent to one or other of the American armies. While all this was going on we could get no recruits in Ireland for our own regiments, and the military authorities were actually going to reduce the recruiting depôt at Cork." The difficulty is to know how to put a stop to this virtual breach of our neutrality. Earl Russell says he is ready to deal severely with any cases which can be proved before the ordinary tribunals. Lord Lyons has, moreover, remonstrated once and again against these acts, and his protests have been backed up by the Home Government; but without result. If Irishmen will be credulous enough to believe the promises of their tempters, who is to interpose? The Government cannot put a stop to emigration, nor take cognisance of the motives which induce it. To Lord Clanricarde's hint that, remonstrance failing, the case was one for a declaration of war, Earl Russell replied that the same course would have to be taken against the Confederate Government, which was equally guilty in the matter, and they would have to go to war with both belligerents. His lordship concurred with Lord Brougham in his remarks upon "this most horrible war," but judiciously observed that no interference of ours would tend to produce peace, because in America there was a strong feeling against any of the nations of Europe, but especially any of the monarchical nations, pretending to meddle with their internal affairs.

The Lords are devoting themselves to questions of practical legislation. The most important of these is the Lord Chancellor's County Courts Act Amendment Bill, the object of which is to afford some protection to debtors for small amounts against the legal powers which their creditors are enabled to wield so mercilessly against them. Deferring to the wishes of the commercial community, Lord Westbury has consented to considerable modifications of his Bill, which were announced on Thursday night. Debts are to be made irrecoverable in three years instead of one year, as originally proposed, and may be renewed by payment on account or acknowledgment in writing. The measure is also to be purely prospective, and not retrospective in its operation, and the dubious plan of requiring masters to stop the wages of their men to pay amounts into court towards the liquidation of debts, is to be abandoned. These alterations have so far satisfied Lord Chelmsford that he is ready to withdraw his opposition to the Bill. The Earl of Shaftesbury has taken up the case of climbing boys in sweeping chimneys, for whose protection a stringent Act was passed in 1840, which has become almost a dead letter. The climbing system continues in all its revolting cruelty. The magistrates, with some exceptions, refuse to carry the law into effect, or require evidence next to impossible to produce. "It is the householders, and especially the great people, who keep it up," declaring that no power on earth would induce them to allow a machine to enter their premises. "Everywhere," says Lord Shaftesbury, "you have one and the same testimony." He has therefore brought in a Bill which prohibits the employment of boys by sweeps, in any capacity, under 10 years of age, and makes it an offence for the chimney-sweeper to take any person into the house with him (where a chimney is to be swept) under 16. Influenced by the shocking statements made by Lord Shaftesbury, the Lords have readily passed the Bill, stringent as are its provisions, and it now awaits the consideration of the Lower House.

The grant of 20,000*l.* to Sir Rowland Hill for his priceless and lengthened services, for a quarter of a century, in gradually revolutionising our postal system, has been carried with acclamation in the Commons, and with the hearty concurrence of the Lords. Earl Granville thus succinctly sums up the result of the reforms, which entitle Sir

Rowlands' not only to national recognition, but to the gratitude of mankind at large:—"There are now nine times as many letters carried as there were twenty-five years ago, and not only has our communication with the colonies increased, but our example has been followed, to a certain degree, by every civilised country in Europe. With respect to the merits of Sir Rowland Hill, they were not confined to the scheme for penny postage, they extended also to the book-post system, which was an enormous advantage for literary and educational purposes; and also to the money-order system, which has assumed extraordinary proportions. In 1838 the amount forwarded in the shape of money-orders was only 313,000*l.*; while in the year 1863 it reached the enormous sum of 16,500,000*l.*"

Mr. Bask's Bill to abate the street music nuisance in the metropolis was brought on for second reading at a late hour on Thursday. Though objected to by Mr. Gladstone and other influential members, the sense of the House was so strongly in its favour, as to bear down all opposition. The Bill proposes to enact that any householder, personally or by his servant or by a police-constable, may require any street musician or singer to depart from the neighbourhood of his house; and a penalty up to 40*s.* is imposed on every one who, after being so required to depart, sounds or plays upon any musical instrument or sings in any thoroughfare near any such house. It is to be lawful for a police constable to take the offender into custody without a warrant. The bill gives large powers to the police, but the nuisance has reached such a height that summary measures are absolutely necessary to abate it.

STREET MUSIC.

ONE feels somewhat envious of the man who is fond of street music. His capacity of enjoyment, as it respects the sense of hearing at least, must be large. Not refined; no, we do not say that—but robust, and, perhaps we may fitly add, coarse—able to gather its food from a very wide stomach. We envy him. He is spared a wonderful amount of daily torture if he lives in the metropolis, or its suburbs, or indeed any populous place in England. A good ear for music, a cultivated taste, and a delicate susceptibility to the beauties of sweet sound, constitute, no doubt, an inlet of exquisite pleasure. But they have their drawback—they are subject to an almost infinite variety of annoyances, and of these nearly the greatest, certainly the most difficult to escape from, is street music. "Nearly the greatest," we say, because occasionally one has come across drawing-room music which jars still more cruelly upon the nerves. When mamma, benevolently intent upon gratifying both the company and herself, insists upon that last duet which her daughters have brought home—one, very possibly, into which Mendelssohn had breathed all the tenderness of his soul—and when the mis-instructed young ladies, really unaware that they have neither ear, voice, sense of time, nor soul for music, proceed to murder the sweet offspring of genius by subjecting it, without meaning to do so, to the harshest treatment—just as four-year-old boys will pull off the legs and wings of a fly, without the smallest idea or intention of hurting it—there will usually be one, if not more, in the company for whose entertainment the exhibition was ordered, who would feel immensely relieved by an interruption even by a hurdy-gurdy.

We do not put street music on a level with street cries. We think it absurd to class them in the same category. Things which are apt means to useful ends, are seldom intolerable. The old woman whom we used to hear chanting in indescribably brassy tones, "Ainy old cheese t'mend—rage, bones, flint-glass or bottles t' pairt with," did not aim at giving her hearers pleasure, but information, and she did it. Without intending a pun, we may say that the inhuman sounds she uttered were part of her calling. We had no ground for objecting to them that they were inappropriate. They did not put a cheat upon us, and then ask payment for the imposition. But street-music is an appeal made, not merely to our sense of hearing, but to our delight in the modulation and harmony of sounds, and, in nineteen cases out of twenty, it wakes up that susceptibility only to torture it. Selecting airs which you have reverently cherished as heart-looks, it grinds and hacks, dislocates and mangles them, till it has nearly crazed you, and then looks up for a fee as though desirous of making you *particeps criminis*. Did the reader ever listen to the performances of a peripatetic wind band, sometimes—we know not for what reason—styled a German band, and consisting of four or half-a-dozen youths and boys, only one of whom can play a recog-

nisable series of notes, the rest dropping in, from the mouths of instruments big enough to swallow up some of the youngsters, an accompaniment reckless of all regard to tune and very little to time, and producing hideous puffs of exorcising discord? We will not add insult to injury by asking how he liked it. Whatever his feelings may be, we beg to remind him that the performers propose to themselves to give nothing in exchange for the coin they solicit from him, but just the measure of gratification or of annoyance which their horrible noise excites. They are not in pursuit of something better over the road which brings them up to the wicket gate of their hearers' sensibilities. Unlike the "any-ornaments-for-your-fire-stove" girls, or the "all-a-growing, all-a-blowing" flower men, their hideous utterances preface nothing. They are their own end. The poor Savoyard who grinds his wheezy organ, or the Italian boy who strums his hurdy-gurdy, has done all the good which he proposes to do when he has played out his set of tunes and extracted from you his copper. In most cases, moreover, you have not even the small satisfaction of believing that the scampish idlers who thus worry you out of patience and halfpence, get the benefit of your questionable benefaction—for, ten to one, they are but the hired slaves of more worthless scamps than themselves, to whom they are constrained to deliver up the greater part of their receipts.

It is astounding how all-pervading the nuisance has become. Stay where you will, or go where you will, in England at least, you cannot wholly escape it. It is like the plague of small unmentionable insects that befell the Egyptians. It invades your quiet at all hours, save, perhaps, two or three available ones before nine in the morning. It stays under your window. It intrudes into your front garden. It finds its way, if necessary, to the back of your house. You are pestered with it on your way to business. You encounter it in your constitutional walks. You scarcely ever get on board a steamboat to seek a breath of sea air, but it emerges from obscurity as soon as you are fairly afloat. Every watering-place is full of it. It visits the most lonely courts in town, and even solitary houses in the country. It is a nuisance which has increased, is increasing, and must be abated. When we writhe under the infliction, we are tempted to exclaim, "Blessed are the deaf, for they escape the torment of street music!" We can sympathise with poor Mr. Babbage; but, for a long time past, we have given up all notion of letting strolling musicians into the secret of our dislike. We were green enough to be guilty of that mistake long, long ago—and we found ourselves incessantly persecuted. In many cases, we verily believe, it is the object of those who prey upon these men, to furnish them with the worst instruments they can get possession of so as to worry society to the very utmost. Street music, especially that of the noisiest sort, has a keen scent for studious men, and for sick chambers. It levies black mail upon both. If you have any weakness, street music will find it out. Are you nervous? An asthmatic organ will surely play upon your infirmity. Do you retire early to bed on account of bodily and mental exhaustion? A brass band, or a brace of vocalists, will scare sleep from your eyelids. There is no escape. You may groan out the Miltonic line—

Me miserable! which way shall I fly?

and the only pertinent answer is supplied by the next words of the poet.

The almost unlimited license given in this country to the vendors of street music—for they can hardly be said to perform *gratis*—is a curious anomaly. We make a singular exception, in our protection of the community from needless annoyances—we were going to say in favour of—to the detriment of the sense of hearing. Suppose we were to leave the organs of sight to be similarly exposed to abuse by every loafing fellow who chose to insult it for the purpose of extortion. Our feelings of propriety, not to say decency, might be constantly shocked by scamps who have no sense of either, or have lost what they had. Or imagine the law to permit people who shun honest labour for their living to try and get it by thrusting lollipops of their own making upon all who come within their reach. Or fancy small companies of vagabonds going from street to street, and disengaging by some cheap chemical process "the most villainous smells that ever offended mortal nostril," to the compulsory delectation of whole neighbourhoods, and then begging to be paid for their kind offices. We do not allow these things. But we give full scope to any one to do outrage to our ears, if he will only do it under the much-decorated name of music. The law rather abets than prohibits the offence. Magistrates are more disposed to screen

than punish the offender. The very Legislature is conservatively disposed, as it usually is, towards an abuse in support of which scarcely a reason can be urged. [O, that execrable German band! It is not yet nine o'clock a.m., and it is at this moment only a few yards off, perpetrating its abominable travesty of "linked sweetness long drawn out."] We were going to qualify our assertion when the distracting interruption occurred. It is averred that nurse-maids and children invariably delight in street music. We dare say they do. They also delight some other modes of whiling away their time which one would not like to befores upon the community. We would not, by any means, deprive them of their treat. Let them have the organ-grinder up in the nursery.

Blessings on Mr. Bask! He provides splendidly for the gratification of one sense, and now he is attempting to screen from outrage another. We are doubtful as to the efficacy of the remedy he proposes, and still more doubtful whether he will get the House of Commons to sanction it. But it is a step in the right direction. We ought to have a veto upon these attempts to extort money from us by torture. However laughingly the matter may be treated, it is in itself no joke.

Parliamentary Proceedings.

HOUSE OF LORDS.

On Thursday night the LORD CHANCELLOR brought in a bill to amend the law relating to the mode of remunerating attorneys and solicitors.

In reply to questions, EARL RUSSELL stated that a prolongation of the armistice for a fortnight had been agreed to.

ENLISTMENT OF BRITISH SUBJECTS.

The Marquis of CLANRICARDE moved for correspondence relating to the emigration and enlistment of British subjects in America. He believed, if the power of recruiting British subjects into the Federal armies had not been allowed, the war would have been brought to a stop long since. The Federals relied mainly on recruits from Ireland. Not only was this the case, but the Federal Government had passed measures to encourage immigration, and there had been established regular depôts for the enlistment of Germans and others. Our Government was bound to see that British subjects were not thus entrapped, and to make vigorous remonstrances against the practice. He hoped such a change would take place in America as would give the European Powers an opportunity of effectually interfering to put a stop to the horrible and useless carnage now going on. Lord BROUGHAM seconded the motion. He wished his voice could reach across the Atlantic and induce his old clients to be satisfied with the glory they had already gained in the war. He did not think the time for intervention had yet come, but he hoped it would shortly approach. EARL RUSSELL said there would be no objection to produce the papers, and it would have been more candid to wait for them before charging the Government with not having made remonstrances. The truth was, Lord LYONS had been constantly making remonstrances. What had been done in Ireland had been done by private speculators, and he held it would be very discreditable to the Washington Government if it did not make strict investigation into the matter. The Confederate Government had, however, given as much cause of complaint as the Federal Government; and if this country were, on such grounds, to go to war with one it must go to war with both. He hoped a stop would soon be put to the war now raging, but he had no hope of such a result from the interference of this country. He wished the Northern States would see the inconsistency of their proceedings. He was sorry to say the papers would constitute a discreditable record against the United States Government. The motion was then agreed to.

The House adjourned at ten minutes to seven o'clock.

On Friday the Chimney Sweepers and Chimneys Regulation Bill was read a third time and passed.

GREENWICH HOSPITAL.

In reply to the Earl of Hardwicke, the Duke of SOMERSET said he had prepared a plan for the reform of Greenwich Hospital. He thought it would be better to separate the management of the income from the management of the invalids. He also proposed that men having families, and not being quite incapacitated from work, should have their allowances at home, while the hospital should be kept exclusively for the disabled and those having no families or homes. The school would be retained, and a portion of the hospital kept for wounded seamen, in case of another maritime war. The plan would effect a saving of 70,000*l.* or 80,000*l.* a year, which would be applicable to the relief of seamen who required assistance and encouragement. A memorandum of the plan would be laid upon the table. After a brief discussion, the subject dropped.

The House adjourned at twenty-five minutes past six o'clock.

THE ELGIN PENSION.

On Monday, EARL GRANVILLE moved that the House concur in the message of the Queen that a pension of 1,000*l.* a year be granted to the Countess of Elgin. He briefly eulogised the services of the late Lord Elgin. The Earl of ELLENBOROUGH bore

his testimony to the merits of Lord Elgin. The Earl of DERRY expressed his opinion that the name of Elgin would be honourably associated with those of Dalhousie, Canning, Herbert, and Cornwall Lewis, all of whom had rendered signal service to, and deserved largely of their country. The motion was agreed to.

WEST RIDING ASSIZES.

Lord WHARNOLIFFE moved an address to her Majesty praying that the late decision of the Privy Council ordering the removal of the West Riding Assizes from York to Leeds, instead of to Wakefield, be reconsidered. The majority of the magistrates of the riding were, he said, in favour of Wakefield, which was the more convenient place for the holding of the assizes. Lord HOUGHTON seconded the motion. Earl GRANVILLE opposed the motion, and said, if agreed to, it would lead to no practical result. A discussion ensued, in which Lord Wensleydale, Lord Brougham, Lord Feversham, Earl De Grey and Ripon, the Earl of Derby, and Lord Cranworth took part. The LORD CHANCELLOR said if the motion were carried it would place their lordships in antagonism to the House of Commons. The House divided, when the motion was carried by 80 votes to 54.

PUBLIC SCHOOLS BILL.

On the motion to go into committee on the Public Schools Bill, Earl GRANVILLE vindicated the character of Christ Church, Oxford, against some attacks which had been passed upon it. Lord RAVENSWORTH supported the noble earl. The Duke of MONTROSE repeated his previous remarks on the subject. The Earl of MALMESBURY censured the Public School Commissioners for not having suppressed some of the evidence which they took as to the irregularities at Eton. The Earl of CLARENDON defended the commissioners, and declared he would be no party to garbling the evidence. The bill passed through committee. Some other measures were advanced a stage, and the House adjourned at half-past eight o'clock.

HOUSE OF COMMONS.

INTOXICATING LIQUORS BILL.

On Wednesday, after an immense number of petitions had been presented in favour of this bill,

Mr. LAWSON moved its second reading. He assigned various reasons for bringing forward this measure, among which he included the vast number of petitions in its favour, signed by upwards of 300,000 persons, and he examined and replied to the objections urged against legislation upon this subject, especially the suggestion that it was impossible to make people sober by Act of Parliament, which, he remarked, had not been suffered to obstruct other attempts at social and moral reforms. He showed what the grievance of which the advocates of the measure complained really was, and that it was acknowledged by persons of all classes; and he appealed to irresistible evidence of the evils resulting from indulgence in intoxicating liquors. The Rev. Mr. Clay, the late chaplain of the Preston House of Correction, said that he had met with upwards of 15,000 persons who attributed their ruin to the inducements held out by ale and beer houses. (Hear, hear.) Referring to previous efforts to legislate on the subject, he spoke of Mr. Somerset's bill for closing public-houses on Sundays, which was rejected with more ignominy than any of the others, and in the debate upon which one hon. member thought it a statesmanlike and gentlemanly course to spit upon a bill which was prayed for by a million of his fellow creatures. ("Hear, hear," followed by applause in the Strangers' Gallery, which was immediately suppressed.) In the whole country there were committed for drunkenness, in 1861, 82,196; 1862, 94,908; and in 1863, 94,745; showing a decrease last year of only 163. This was no visionary grievance.

The *Quarterly* and *Edinburgh Reviews* had condemned the liquor traffic as not justifiable by political economy, and as physically, economically, and morally a social nuisance. The *Times* of the 18th of December, 1853, said, "No way so rapid to increase the wealth of nations and the morality of society as the utter annihilation of the manufacture of ardent spirits, constituting as they do an infinite waste and unmixed evil"; and the *Daily Telegraph* spoke of the entire trade as a "covenant with sin and death." He hoped, therefore, that it would not be said that the cry against it was only got up by enthusiasts. Did anybody ever hear of an enthusiast writing in the *Times*? (Much laughter.) The trade in intoxicating drinks had also been condemned by various committees of that House; and one who sat in 1834 went so far as to recommend that when public opinion was sufficiently awakened there should be a prohibition both of the importation and distillation of spirits, and that a law should be passed at once for "the progressive diminution and ultimate suppression of the existing facilities and means of intemperance, as the root of almost every other vice." The judges were almost unanimous as to the evil results of intemperance. Barons Gurney and Alderson, and Justices Erskine, Coleridge, Patteson, and Wightman, had all expressed their opinions that the large majority of crimes originated at the public-house, and that if it were not for drink there would be no criminals to try. According to the last census there were 20,000 persons in gaols, 125,000 in workhouses, 24,000 in lunatic asylums, 11,000 homeless persons, 23,000 in charitable institutions, and 889,000 in receipt of relief in England and Wales alone, and the evidence showed that the great proportion of these people were brought to this state by drunkenness. In the face of such facts, how could they say that they were good politicians? (Hear, hear.)

He did not propose to interfere with the magistrates' power to decide the number of licences to be granted, but if two-thirds of the ratepayers of a district said they did not want the houses, then neither the

magistrates nor the excise should be empowered to grant any licences. The bill was purely permissive in its character, and he believed, if passed, it would promote that happiness, morality, and good order which were the only foundation of the welfare of the country.

Captain JERVIS moved to defer the second reading for three months. Having had the misfortune to spend five months in the Maine Liquor Law States of America, he had been a witness of the total absurdity of such a system. The proposal now made was contrary to the whole of our constitutional system, and it was one which would not work to any advantage in practice. In America persons who lived in a State in which the sale of liquor was prohibited could obtain it by crossing into a neighbouring State, and how much more easy would that process be when the distinction was not between States, but between parishes. In the Maine Liquor Law States the law was systematically evaded. After he had been there about a fortnight, and could get nothing to drink but milk and water, he applied to a friend of his, who introduced him to another gentleman, to whom he made a present of a certain number of dollars, and from whom he received a present of sherry. There was more intoxication in those States now than there was before the prohibitory law was introduced. Men, instead of going to a bar to take their liquor, went down into a cellar where they got drunk, and where they were kept, because the landlord knew that he would be punished as well as they. He observed that the speech of Mr. Lawson was no defence of the bill, which put an arbitrary power into the hands of two-thirds of the ratepayers of a parish. He was acquainted with the habits of the working classes, and he believed that drunkenness had diminished throughout the country, and not by penal enactment, but by education. He must really protest against the time of the House being taken up—(cheers)—with a bill like the present, for the sake of amiable and kindly old ladies and gentlemen, the clients of the hon. gentleman, who numbered, according to his statement, 320,000, including all the children and all the false signatures to be found among those which were got up at the rate of 6s. a thousand. (Laughter.)

One or two hon. members rose with the intention of continuing the debate, but were met with general cries of "Divide," and resumed their seats. The Speaker was in the act of putting the question, when

Mr. BRIGHT rose:—He said the evil with which the bill proposed to deal was no doubt great. There were two modes of remedying it: the first, the improvement and instruction of the people; the second, the special legislation of that House. He looked to the first as the permanent remedy. Among the upper class drunkenness was much less frequent than it was fifty or sixty years ago; yet they could get as much intoxicating liquors as they pleased.

There were many members of the House older than himself, but he was old enough to remember when among those classes of society with which they were more familiar than with the working people, drunkenness was ten or twenty times more common than in the present day. (Hear.) He had been in the House for twenty years, and every session had partaken of the hospitality of various members, and during the whole of that period he had no recollection of seeing a single person at any gentleman's table in a condition that would be at all fairly described by saying that person was drunk. (Hear.) And, further, he did not recollect more than two or three occasions during that time when he had observed, either from a thickness of utterance, rapidity of talking, or recklessness of conversation, that any gentleman had taken so much as to impair his judgment. That was not a state of things prevailing in this country fifty or sixty years ago. (Cheers.)

But he was not disposed to deny that something might be done by special legislation. He did not believe that the present licensing system was satisfactory, and he thought that in many places the magistrates granted licences too freely. This bill, however, proposed to give the ratepayers power not only to stop the issue of new licences, but to deprive those who now held licences of them. Such a measure involved several millions of property, and he did not think the House would consent to it. He objected to a matter of the kind being decided by the votes of two-thirds of the ratepayers. He thought the bill might produce a most pernicious reaction, and having great sympathy with the temperance movement, he did not wish for such a consummation. He thought a step in the right direction would be to put the licensing power into the hands of the municipal councils in boroughs. It might be objected that such a system would not do for the rural districts, where there were no municipal councils, but he believed if it were found to answer in towns it would soon be extended to the rural districts. In his own person he should not have brought this question before the House, for he was not sufficiently sanguine as to the result of these changes to become the spokesman of the temperance party in the House of Commons. He had not the faith possessed by many in acts of legislation. (Cheers.) As he had already said, he believed more in the instruction of the people, and in the improvement which was gradually taking place among them. Drunkenness was not on the increase, but on the decline, and, whether the law were altered or not, he believed the working classes would become more and more sober than they had been in past times.

Mr. ROXBURGH opposed the bill as a mischievous and unjust measure. The House, by passing it, would, he said, abdicate its functions. Suppose the ratepayers of Westminster decided to put an end to all places where intoxicating liquors were sold, would that extend to the refreshment-room of the

House of Commons? It ought to do so. (Laughter and cheers.) But could anything be more foolish than such a proposal? (Hear, hear.) It was mainly directed against the poor, and was, therefore, a cruel bill. There was a class of mind that was so intolerant, which so hated dissent, that in its time it had given rise to the Inquisition, it had burnt Servetus at the stake, and it had made the hon. gentleman bring forward this bill. (Cheers and laughter.) As between the municipal power and the magistrates, he was for continuing the power in the hands of the magistrates, as at present, (Hear, hear.)

Mr. W. MARTIN and Mr. SCOURFIELD likewise opposed the bill.

Sir GEORGE GREY said every one would sympathise with the hon. gentleman and those who acted with him in the desire to put a check upon drunkenness, which was the source of a vast number of crimes. He must, however, differ from his hon. friends as to the alleged increase of drunkenness. Drunkenness was not on the increase in this country, but in consequence of the improved habits and education of the people and the moral influences at work among them, on the decline. (Hear, hear.) He was decidedly of opinion that the remedy proposed by the bill would be an intolerable tyranny over minorities and those who had no voice in the matter. He did not hesitate to declare that it would be quite impossible to carry such an act into effect by any penalties that would be imposed. (Hear, hear.) Supposing, however, that it could be carried into law, what hardships would it not create? Hardships on the poor and not on the rich. (Hear.) The rich and the middle classes would keep their cellars well stored, but the poor man had no cellars, and no beer to put into them, and he would therefore be debarred from the enjoyment of that which he (Sir G. Grey) considered a perfectly innocent beverage, and which was in many cases a necessary of life. (Cheers.) Sympathising with the object of Mr. Lawson, he hoped, after the opinions which had been expressed in the House, he would not persevere in the measure. He had on a former occasion expressed an opinion that the law was not enforced as it ought to be by those in whom its administration was vested. Great complaints were made that no effective supervision was exercised over beerhouses, and he was therefore anxious to explain the provisions of the law. If the keeper of a beershop were convicted for the third time of permitting drunkenness and disorderly conduct in his house, he might be disqualified from selling beer during the space of two years. It was not generally known, he believed, that this power existed, and there was nothing more rare than closing a beerhouse for two years. If it were closed, however, the loss to the owner of the property was considerable.

Mr. BUXTON said that Mr. Lawson had quoted an article written by himself many years ago, and of which, he confessed, he felt somewhat ashamed. It might be thought strange that any man in his position should have written at all upon such a question. On the contrary, no one could have stronger motives for examining what could be done to make that traffic harmless than those who were personally connected with it. (Hear, hear.) In writing that paper, he had endeavoured to consider the subject as impartially as if he had not been interested in the matter himself; but certainly, if he could have foreseen that the authorship of it would have been discovered, he should have written with somewhat more regard to what artists would call "keeping." But he felt the greatest respect for Mr. Lawson, and for all who were striving to lessen that tremendous evil of drunkenness, though he thought that this bill would, if carried, produce unbounded irritation and inconvenience.

Mr. W. E. FORSTER, though unprepared to vote for the bill, or to agree to Mr. Bright's suggestions, was not prepared to admit that they should entirely negative the principle which was behind this measure—namely, that the ratepayers should have some voice with regard to the limitation of the number of drinking-houses. He suggested that the Government should take it into consideration whether it would not be practicable to admit the ratepayers in the immediate neighbourhood to some voice which would affect the decision of the magistrates in granting licences, care being taken that they should not be enabled to stop all facilities for the sale of liquors.

Mr. HENLEY said that those who had lived as long as he had must know that temperance among all classes had increased; drunkenness was now almost unknown among the higher classes, and they must trust to the good sense of the humbler classes, to the spread of education and the example of others, and not to legislation, to produce the effect aimed at by this bill. (Hear, hear.)

Mr. PEASE had hoped that the Government, after all the debates that had taken place upon the subject and the petitions which had been presented, would have seen that it was their duty to meet the requirements of the case.

Mr. SCULLY said he had been pressed very strongly by the leading members of his own Church to support all bills of this description. He quite differed from right rev. prelates who thought that legislation of this kind would be successful. ("Divide!")

He had gone out to the refreshment table a little while ago, and he saw several hon. gentlemen there. ("Divide, divide!") Hon. gentlemen need not interrupt, for he was not going to mention their names. (Laughter.) He saw some gentlemen there taking sherry, and he asked them which way they were going to vote. Some of them said they would vote for the bill. He asked them how they could take such refresh-

ment and yet vote for the bill, but they replied, "Oh, 'twill not be carried." (Laughter.)

Mr. LAWSON having briefly replied, the House divided:—

For the second reading	...	35
Against	...	292
Majority	...	—257

The bill was therefore lost.

Mr. DUNLOP moved the second reading of the Valuation of Lands and Heritages (Scotland) Act Amendment Bill: A lengthy discussion followed, which was cut short at a quarter to six o'clock.

The other orders were disposed of, and the House adjourned at five minutes to six o'clock.

THE KING OF DAHOMEY.

On Thursday, in reply to Mr. A. Mills, Mr. CARDWELL said the Governor of Lagos was about to proceed on a mission to Abbeokuta, with a view of seeing whether peaceful relations could not be restored between that country and the King of Dahomey, and also to obtain redress for the long-standing claims of British subjects. There was no intention to make any change in our policy in regard to the matter.

PENSION TO LADY ELGIN.

The House went into committee to consider the message of her Majesty respecting the pension of 1,000*l.* to Lady Elgin. Lord PALMERSTON, in moving that the pension be granted, briefly and eulogistically reviewed the services rendered by Lord Elgin to the country. He mentioned that the East India Company had also agreed to grant a pension of 1,000*l.* a-year; so that she would thus have pensions amounting to 2,000*l.* a-year. Lord STANLEY seconded the motion. Sir H. WILLOUGHBY asked whether the grant by the East India Company would be brought before the House. Sir WOOD replied that it would not. The motion was then agreed to, and the House resumed.

COLLECTION OF TAXES.

On the motion for the recommitment of the Collection of Taxes Bill, Colonel GILPIN expressed his opinion that the measure was unnecessary. Sir H. WILLOUGHBY also opposed it, and moved that it was not expedient that the land, assessed, and income taxes should be collected by officers of the Inland Revenue. Mr. PACKE seconded the amendment. Mr. HUNT and Mr. WARNER supported the bill. After some remarks from Mr. Barrow, Mr. Horsfall, Mr. Liddell, Mr. Jackson, and Sir B. Leighton, the CHANCELLOR of the EXCHEQUER defended the bill. The system proposed by it was already in operation in Scotland, and worked well. Serious evils in regard to the collection of taxes were now complained of, and it was to remedy these that the bill was introduced. Mr. HENLEY and Lord J. MANNERS opposed the bill. After a few words from Mr. WILLIAMS, the amendment was negatived by 137 votes to 103, and the House went into committee on the bill. On clause 2, Mr. HORSFALL moved the omission of the proviso exempting the metropolis from the operation of the bill. A discussion ensued, ending in the proviso being retained by 73 votes to 62. The other clauses were agreed to, and the House resumed.

SCOTCH LEGISLATION.

The adjourned debate on the motion for the second reading of the Writs Registration (Scotland) Bill was resumed by Sir J. FERGUSON, who contended that a case had not been made out for the introduction of the bill at that period of the session, and, after replying to the arguments of the Lord Advocate in favour of the measure, and urging objections, moved to defer the second reading for three months. The amendment was seconded by Mr. BAXTER, who denounced the bill as a centralising measure for the benefit of lawyers. Colonel STYKE and Mr. AYTOUN likewise opposed the bill. Mr. MURE supported the second reading, believing the bill to be substantially a good measure, that would save expense in the transfer of land. Objections to the details were for the committee. The bill was further opposed by Mr. Dunlop, Mr. Carnegie, Sir E. Colebrooke, Mr. Craufurd, and Mr. Kinnaird, and eventually withdrawn by the Lord-Advocate.

CHURCH-BUILDING AND NEW PARISH ACTS AMENDMENT BILL.

On the order for the second reading of this bill,

The ATTORNEY-GENERAL said:—

Two years ago the hon. member for Poole (Mr. H. Seymour) had called the attention of the House to the importance of consolidating the various Church-building Acts; and the Government undertook the duty of preparing a bill for that purpose. The task of drafting the measure was placed in the hands of Dr. Stephens, who was one of the most eminent ecclesiastical lawyers of the day. That gentleman had performed it on the principle of retaining all existing enactments as well as that could be done considering the mass of inconsistent provisions which the different statutes contained; and he had introduced no amendments except such as were necessary to make the measure intelligible. He (the Attorney-General), on looking through the draft, found that it would be useless unless it was more simplified, and unless further improvements were introduced into its details. He had therefore thoroughly revised it, but in doing so he had carefully excluded all controverted topics, and in particular he had avoided all reference to Church-rates, the provisions relating to which he had excepted from the repealing schedule. The bill had been referred to a select committee, which had bestowed a great deal of pains upon it, and had taken exactly the same view as her Majesty's Government had done respecting the inexpediency of making any alteration in the law upon Church-rates. The hon. member for Wycombe had indeed moved an amendment, which would have prevented the extension of Church-rates to new parishes; but all the members of the committee present had voted against it, including two hon. gentlemen who had always supported the total abolition of

Church-rates, but who did not think it right to moot the subject in a mere Consolidation Bill. The Government were anxious to leave the subject of Church-rates as it was before. He therefore prepared a bill on that footing, and he introduced it in other respects in substance as it had passed the select committee. After it was introduced a great deal of discussion took place out of doors on one particular clause, which was regarded by a large body out of doors as having the very effect which the Government were desirous to avoid in bringing forward such a measure, namely, that it would affect the subject of Church-rates. When that appeared to be the case it was a matter for the serious consideration of the Government how far it offered an obstacle to the passing of the measure, and how far it might be met by a modification of the bill. It had been seriously supposed that notwithstanding the engagement which had been given that there should be as far as possible an even-handed balance between both parties on that subject, yet that advantage was sought to be gained in that bill to extend the law of Church-rates in a manner that was not applicable under the existing law. Well, he thought there were not many members of the House who would believe that he would personally lend himself to such an attempt—(Hear, hear)—and to say that a Government, the greater part of the members of which were in the habit of voting for the abolition of Church-rates, would do so, would be too unreasonable for any one to believe. There were twelve principal acts relating to this subject, and there were what he might call two classes of new parishes to which these acts referred. The first class were new parishes under the acts anterior to Sir Robert Peel's Act of 1843; the next were new parishes constituted under Lord Blandford's Act of 1856. The first class consisted of new parishes which by the express enactments of the statutes under which they were founded were authorised to raise Church-rates within themselves for the purpose of the repair of their own churches, and they were also saddled with a contribution to the parish church for twenty years. These district parishes were formed under what were called the Million Acts of 1818 and 1819; and since that time seven other acts had been passed, the whole of which referred to the power of creating that class of new parishes originally given by the Act of 1818 with the express incidence of continuing the levying of Church-rates. Now it was clear that the Government had not intended to operate on the subject of Church-rates, because by the process of consolidation adopted in this bill they had swept away the whole of the machinery; and if this bill passed there could no longer be created any district parish which would have conferred on it the power of levying Church-rates. That was not done in order to affect the question of Church-rates, but it was thought better to get rid of the older machinery, and they did not consider in so doing whether they should or should not diminish the area wherein the law of Church-rates might be applied. The Peel and Blandford Acts introduced a new description of parishes. In 1842, when Queen Anne's Bounty was to advance 600,000*l.* for the creation of new districts, Sir Robert Peel proposed to endow districts which had not Church-rates at the time of endowing them, hoping that private benefactors would provide churches, and the bill provided that when a church was consecrated it should become a new parish for ecclesiastical purposes. In that act there was not a word about Church-rates, and from that it was inferred that these new parishes would not have the same incidence as to Church-rates which the earlier new parishes had. It was also inferred that Sir Robert Peel then made a declaration of his own opinions on that subject, but he was bound to say that he had not been able to discover that Sir Robert Peel had left on record his intentions on that subject. What Sir Robert Peel said was that he did not intend to confer on the Church-building Society, a society which was established for the purpose of collecting voluntary subscriptions, the power of imposing Church-rates on any parish. The next stage was the introduction of a bill by Lord Blandford in 1856, and on that bill there were many misrepresentations abroad. In the first place, it was not a Government measure, and it was introduced to create parishes where there were churches already; and the bill contained a provision that Church-rates levied in a district should only be applicable to the church of that district, and not to the mother church. In his speech upon the bill Lord Blandford said:—

The districts (i.e., district parishes) were liable for twenty years to the rates of the mother church, and, as no benefit was derived, the district churches frequently refused the rates more from this reason than from any disapproval of the Church as a great national institution. . . . The simple remedy, which he had endeavoured to embody in this bill with respect to this question, was to declare that no Church-rate should be levied in a district which was not applied to the church of that district. . . . No Church-rates were to be collected in any new parish, except for the support of its own church.

When, therefore, the bill was introduced, he intended to enable Church-rates to be raised for the new parishes which he proposed to create. But the bill was referred to a select committee, and came out very much altered, and among other changes that clause had disappeared. When it was considered in committee in this House very little discussion took place. Sir W. Clay asked whether the second clause, constituting separate parishes, would confer upon those parishes the right of levying Church-rates. Lord Blandford said positively that that would not be the effect of the clause—that the parishes constituted should to all intents and purposes resemble those formed by Sir R. Peel's Act, under which, as was known, no Church-rate could be levied. (Hear, hear.) That statement of Lord Blandford might or might not have been correctly understood at the time, but hon. gentlemen would do well to read the second clause upon which the question and answer were given. That clause merely provided for the creation of additional parishes in districts which had already a church, Sir R. Peel's Act having provided for a similar object in districts without churches. The Peel parishes were expressly the subject of the clause, and no doubt Lord Blandford expressed his apprehension that these parishes would not be able to have any Church-rates. But the material clause in the act, and one which might have an important bearing upon the question, did not stand now as it did when this conversation took place. At that time the 15th clause wanted seven or eight lines with which it now concluded. It provided that the resident inhabitants of every new parish, whether constituted under the Peel or Blandford

Acts, "shall for all ecclesiastical purposes be parishioners thereof, and of no other parish, and such new parish shall for the like purposes have and possess all the same rights and privileges, and be affected with such and the same liabilities as are incident or belong to a distinct and separate parish." There the clause stopped originally, but in committee of this House these important words were added:—"and to no other liabilities: provided always that nothing herein contained shall be taken to affect the legal liabilities of any parish regulated by a local act of Parliament, or the security for any loan of money legally borrowed under any act of Parliament or otherwise." Of course, the saving of securities for moneys borrowed under an act of Parliament could only have reference to moneys borrowed on the security of rates; and these words were very likely added for the express purpose of preventing the effect which some supposed now to be produced by the clause. This was the state in which her Majesty's present Government found the matter, with the addition that in the autumn of 1862 the question as to the effect of the Peel and Blandford Acts was raised in a suit about a Church-rate at Shrewsbury—the case of "Gough and Jones"—in which Dr. Lushington held, not that Church-rates should not be raised for the repair of the church of a new parish, but that the inhabitants of a new parish would not be liable to the Church-rate levied in the mother parish. It had occurred to many persons since then, and he believed the opinion had been acted upon, that the converse proposition ought to hold, and that if the new parish was exonerated from the Church-rate levied in the old parish, it would be entitled, on the same principle, to raise a Church-rate for its own purposes. Dr. Lushington in his judgment did not proceed upon the interpretation of Lord Blandford's Act at all. He took an earlier clause, the 14th, which said that whenever certain offices of the Church should be performed in the church of a new parish or district, and the fees should belong to the incumbent, then it was to be a separate and distinct parish for ecclesiastical purposes, such as was contemplated in the 15th section of Sir R. Peel's Act. Dr. Lushington said:—"That refers us to Sir R. Peel's Act, so let us see whether Church-rates could be levied there." Then he fastened upon the term "ecclesiastical purposes" in the 15th section. That, in his opinion, must mean all ecclesiastical purposes; and he held that Church-rates were ecclesiastical purposes. In this way, construing Sir R. Peel's Act, and not the 15th section of Lord Blandford's Act, Dr. Lushington arrived at the conclusion that Church-rates were not to be levied in the new parish for the purposes of the old parish. He believed it was proposed to appeal from this judgment to the Privy Council, and it would therefore be impossible yet to assume that this was actually the law. At the same time it must be obvious to every one that there were elements for further consideration arising out of the 15th section which were not exhausted by Dr. Lushington's decision in this case. In all the acts for building new churches, pew-rents were allowed to be raised. But he was in favour of free churches, though the present acts would be left by this bill unaffected. He could assure the House that it was the greatest mistake possible to suppose that this bill was legislation in favour of pew-rents; for it went no further in that direction than the law in existence, and the same might be said as regarded Church-rates. The bill had been prepared in the hope of doing some little good, but under all the circumstances of the case he thought it would be better to postpone the bill to another session, and therefore he would now move that the order be discharged. (Hear, hear.)

Sir O. DOUGLAS said, what those who agreed with him contended for had been admitted by the hon. and learned gentleman, and that was that during the last thirty years no bill had been carried through the House which did not go on the assumption that Church-rates were not to be interfered with.

Mr. HUNT deeply compassionated his hon. and learned friend upon the pressure which had been put upon him, because he believed that if left to pursue his own course unimpeded his hon. and learned friend would have carried the measure through the House, and thus have earned the gratitude of all Churchmen on account of his having effected a change which had been felt necessary for many years. The difficulty which beset all persons desirous of erecting new churches, in consequence of the elaborate nature of the Church-building Acts, had long been a disgrace to the Legislature of the country. He must regret that his hon. and learned friend, by taking service with a Ministry whose political exigencies were such that they were obliged to violate their convictions and bow to the unreasonable clamour of a small section, had been obliged to withdraw a measure against the progress of which there was not a single reason except the fear of the disaffection and estrangement of a few of the supporters of the Government. What was the reason which induced the anti-Church-rate party to dissent from the bill? The decision in the Shrewsbury case had been fully explained by his hon. and learned friend. It had been decided under Lord Blandford's Act that the new churches were not liable to pay Church-rates to the mother church, and it had been thought that the converse of the proposition would hold good, and that if the new church was so exonerated from the payment of Church-rates it would be entitled to raise them for its own purposes. The committee held that, as they had the law laid down by a competent authority, it was not in their power to alter it. But the hon. member for Wycombe and those gentlemen who supported him wished to have a legislative declaration setting aside the opinion of Dr. Lushington as contrary to law. That, however, he did not regard as a legitimate reason for opposing the measure. The bill was simply a Consolidation Act, and as such should have been proceeded with, and then the hon. member for Wycombe and those who agreed with him would have been able to propose any amendment they might have deemed proper in committee. He maintained that the course which the Government had adopted was a weak and unworthy one. The bill should not have been withdrawn by the Government simply from the fear of a division in

their own party, but should have been allowed to go into committee.

Mr. H. SEYMOUR denied that the bill was a consolidative measure, and to that cause attributed its failure. Directly the bill was laid upon the table of the House, he maintained that it was an amendment bill establishing an entirely new code. Sir James Graham had expressed as his opinion that it was impossible to introduce a consolidative measure. He did not agree in that opinion, and he did not regard the failure of this measure as any proof of the correctness of the remark of Sir James Graham, because he maintained that a Consolidation Act had not been attempted by his hon. and learned friend. When the intricate measure, with its hundred clauses, was referred to the committee, the gentlemen on the committee were engaged for four months in performing the duties which should have been undertaken by a draughtsman in the solitude of his chamber. His hon. and learned friend had said that the bill introduced no change in the existing law with regard to Church-rates. Without desiring to impugn the motives of his hon. and learned friend, or to attribute to him the intention of surreptitiously introducing Church-rates where they had not hitherto been levied, the measure had no doubt given rise to disagreeable rumours as to the insertion of two or three words in the bill which it was said would have the effect of introducing Church-rates into 500 or 600 parishes at some future date where their existence had hitherto been unknown. He could not understand how the hon. member for Northampton (Mr. Hunt) could maintain that the bill was a consolidative measure, when he and every member of the committee were aware of the numerous amendments and new clauses which had been introduced into it. In this bill words were inserted which would introduce Church-rates into many parishes in which otherwise they would not have been known for thirty years to come. Under Sir R. Peel's Act, and under the Marquis of Blandford's Act, Church-rates were not introduced, and, therefore, no opposition had been offered to those measures. But would the Conservative party—the successors of those who passed those measures upon that understanding—would they now, because of an accidental interpretation of particular words in a sense that was not intended by the framers of those measures, refuse to listen to a fair appeal of those who objected to the interpretation? He hoped the hon. and learned gentleman would, instead of attempting an Amending Bill, introduce next session a Consolidation Bill, and if he did so there would be little doubt of his being able to carry it. (Hear.)

Lord J. MANNERS could not agree with the last speaker in the conclusions he had drawn from Sir R. Peel's and the Marquis of Blandford's Acts, that the members on that side of the House should agree with the hon. member for Wycombe that Church-rates should never be levied in the parishes thus created. Sir R. Peel, as was well known, was a cautious man, and he did not say anything about Church-rates, because his measure contained no direct allusion to them; but it was not fair to argue from that silence twenty years afterwards that Church-rates never were to be raised in these parishes. With respect to the Marquis of Blandford's Act, the Attorney-General had put the matter in the clearest light. It was upon a discussion upon the second clause that Lord Blandford spoke, and afterwards the bill was altered. The measure must be judged by its words, and not by a conversation upon a particular clause. (Hear, hear.) Taking the act as they found it, and wishing to consolidate it with other Church-building Acts, it would be absurd to suppose that, having successfully maintained the existence of Church-rates, members on that (Opposition) side would agree to insert words in a Consolidation Bill, to prevent for all time the rating of Church-rates in the new and largely increasing parishes. (Hear, hear.) The history which the hon. gentleman had given of this bill showed that if this bill had been carried out merely as a measure of consolidation the present difficulty would not have arisen. The Attorney-General told them that instructions were given to prepare a Consolidation Bill, and Dr. Stephens did prepare such a bill, but political reasons prevented him from accepting the measure.

The ATTORNEY-GENERAL: That was not so.

Lord J. MANNERS said, no doubt the object of the hon. and learned gentleman was to avoid controversy, but he did not succeed. After a division the committee recommended that the sections should be embodied in the bill, but the Attorney-General had told the House that he thought it would be unwise to do so. Still the objectors were not conciliated. The Attorney-General, as a further attempt to conciliate them, offered to waive all reference to Sir R. Peel's and Lord Blandford's Acts, but they would not be conciliated. The moral to be drawn from those failures was that it was impossible to conciliate political Dissenters upon any matter connected with the Church of England, and if the Attorney-General desired to consolidate our Church-building legislation he must proceed upon a bolder and more definite basis, and by a Consolidation Bill defy the efforts of the Liberation Society. (Hear.) He knew that the hon. and learned gentleman was not to blame, that he had acted in the highest and purest spirit, but that he had been overruled by higher authority, and had been required to sacrifice his Churchmanship to his connection with those who sat near him. (Hear, hear.) There had been great difficulties in the way of the hon. and learned gentleman, not only legal but also political difficulties, and great praise was due to him for his efforts to overcome them. It was to be lamented that these efforts had failed; but he could not

believe that the labours of Dr. Stephens and his able coadjutors would be lost, but were only reserved for fruition at a happier time, and with a more united Cabinet. (Hear.)

Mr. F. POWELL paid his tribute of admiration to the ability which the Attorney-General had exhibited in introducing the measure, but the more he felt that credit was due to that right hon. and learned gentleman, the less was his hope that from the Treasury Bench, as at present constituted, any measure of benefit to the Church of England would proceed.

Mr. J. R. MILLS said that, having been taunted with forcing on the committee the consideration of the question of Church-rates, he wished to state that last year, on the second reading of the bill, he objected to it on the same grounds as he did now. The Secretary of State then said that no doubt it was understood that Church-rates should not be leviable for the support of these district churches, that the question was one for the select committee, and that no instruction would be necessary. Therefore, he was fully justified by what fell from the right hon. gentleman in bringing the subject before the committee. He disclaimed imputing to the Attorney-General any motives except the most honourable. He believed that the right hon. and learned gentleman never attempted anything which he did not think right, and that his course was guided by the principle of justice—(Hear)—but from first to last, since the money from the 1,000,000l. Act was expended, it was understood that churches built by subscription were not to be supported by Church-rates. Nevertheless, he maintained that the present bill gave the power of levying Church-rates in district parishes. It ought to be considered that by re-enacting a clause they gave it additional force. (No! no!) He stood alone in the committee, and he had endeavoured to maintain his principles honestly, which he would always continue to do.

The order was then discharged, and the bill withdrawn.

STREET MUSIC.

Mr. BASS moved the second reading of this bill. Mr. HANKEY thought the measure required grave consideration before it was sanctioned by the House, interfering as it did with a large class. ("Oh, oh," and a laugh.) Street music might annoy some persons, but it certainly amused many more, and it was to be regretted that the extreme sensibilities of a few individuals should have led them to enter upon a crusade against it. He moved that the bill should be read a second time that day six months. Mr. LAWSON said the hon. member for Derby had a coadjutor out-of-doors who had written a pamphlet on the subject of street music, and who maintained that the whole body of organ-grinders was supported by the licensed victuallers and the proprietors of public-houses. (A laugh.) Sir G. GREY said it would be necessary to amend the bill in committee. Mr. BUTT said the bill consisted of only one clause, and consequently the whole question was now at issue. (Cries of "Oh!") If anything could induce him to advocate the suppression of street music, it would be the cries of "Oh!" from some hon. gentlemen, for sounds more resembling those of a barrel organ out of tune he had never heard. Mr. ADDERLEY, in supporting the bill, claimed that the inhabitants of London should be protected against what might be called a German crusade. The CHANCELLOR of the EXCHEQUER said the bill was an unwarrantable interference with the amusements of the people, and there was nothing unreasonable in the demand that it should be discussed at an earlier hour. (Hear.) Mr. BUTT moved the adjournment of the debate. Mr. HUNT supposed that the Chancellor of the Exchequer opposed the bill as a friend of the Italian cause, forgetting that Savoy had recently been annexed to France, and that barrel-organs were not included in the French treaty. For his own part, he objected to all discordant sounds, even though they might come from the Treasury bench, and his ear had been offended by hearing the Home Secretary say he was in favour of the second reading, and the Chancellor of the Exchequer that he was decidedly opposed to it. (A laugh.) Mr. BASS defended his bill, and Mr. COLLINS opposed it as "tyrannical." Sir R. PEEL trusted that the House would agree to the second reading of this bill for putting down the abominable nuisance of street organs. (Hear, hear.) He happened to live next door to a religious club, and regularly every Saturday morning an Italian came and played the 100th Psalm on a hand organ. (Laughter.) He asked the fellow whether he could not play some other Psalm tune; but he said he had not another in his repertoire. (A laugh, and "Hear, hear.") Eventually the motion for adjournment was rejected by 56 to 19, and the second reading carried amid considerable cheering.

The House adjourned at twenty-five minutes before two o'clock.

On Friday, Mr. COEDEN gave notice that he should bring forward his motion as to Government manufactories on that day month.

THE ARMISTICE.

In reply to Mr. Disraeli, Lord PALMERSTON stated that the suspension of hostilities for another fortnight was not accompanied by any condition. The German Powers wished for a longer suspension, but the Danes would not agree to it. In reply to Mr. D. Griffith, Lord PALMERSTON said he could not answer the questions as to what would be done in cases that were to come.

PRIVATE BILLS.

On the motion for going into committee of supply, Lord ROBERT CEIL moved a resolution declaring that the duty of ascertaining the facts upon which

legislation in respect to private bills is to proceed, should be discharged by some tribunal external to the House. The present system, he contended, was utterly breaking down. Under it members were greatly overworked, and the result was most unsatisfactory. The parties who supported the present system were all pecuniarily interested in it. The course he proposed would secure justice being done, and would in no way trench upon the prerogatives of the House. Mr. M. GIBSON agreed that the private bill legislation threw a great deal of work on the members of the House. But he thought the proposed substitute for the present system would be unsatisfactory. He believed if the decision on private bills had been left to a judicial body outside the House, they would never have had any railways. He should be glad to assist in improving the present system as much as possible, but he hoped the House would not lightly agree to any proposition which would sanction Parliament parting with its jurisdiction over the private bill legislation of the country. Colonel WILSON PATTEN also opposed the motion, which he hoped the noble lord would not press to a division. Lord STANLEY was glad the subject had been brought forward. He believed the present system to be susceptible of considerable improvement, but he did not think the plan proposed was a step in the right direction. It might, perhaps, shorten the proceedings, but it would materially increase the cost of private bill legislation. A lengthy discussion followed, and eventually Lord R. Cecil withdrew his motion.

GOLD CURRENCY FOR INDIA.

Mr. J. B. SMITH moved that the increasing trade and commerce of India, and the consequent increasing demand for a portable circulating medium, required that a gold currency should be established in that empire. He quoted statistics largely to show the increasing trade of India, and pointed out that wishes had repeatedly been expressed by Indians for the establishment of a gold currency. Colonel SYKES said no difficulty would be experienced in inducing the natives of India to take a gold currency, provided it were taken at a market price, and not at a conventional value. Sir C. WOOD said the question was one of great importance. It was under the consideration of the Indian Government, and he thought they had better wait until they had the opinions of the Indian public before them. After a few words from Mr. WATKIN and Mr. GSÜCHEN, the motion was withdrawn.

SUPPLY.

Mr. WILLIAMS complained that, owing to the number of motions on the paper, the House was so late in getting into committee of supply. Lord PALMERSTON said hon. members had a right to have questions in which they took an interest discussed, but as the session was far advanced, and there were yet many votes to be taken, he hoped some forbearance would be shown in respect of putting notices on the paper. Sir H. WILLOUGHBY suggested that supply should be taken on Monday and Thursday evenings.

GRANT TO SIR ROWLAND HILL.

The House then went into committee of supply, when Lord PALMERSTON moved a vote of 20,000l. to Sir Rowland Hill, in pursuance of her Majesty's message, in consideration of his eminent services in devising and carrying out important improvements in postal administration. He enlarged upon the great merit and value of his plans, and upon the benefit they had conferred in particular upon the labouring and poorer classes of the community. The improvements had not, as anticipated, diminished the revenue of the Post Office, but, on the contrary, the gross revenue had increased since 1838 more than 1,500,000l.

Mr. WILLIAMS said that no one more highly estimated the great services of Sir Rowland Hill than he did; but it ought to be remembered that he was not the only person who was concerned in carrying out the change in the postal system. The late Mr. Wallace, almost night after night, urged the subject upon the attention of that House, and did more to introduce the plan to the country than Sir Rowland Hill. Several members of large constituencies expressed their cordial approval of the vote, bearing testimony to the great merits of Sir Rowland, and to the benefits which all classes had derived from his plans. Mr. TURNER, amid much laughter, referred to the objections taken by "the noble viscount, the member for Lambeth." In reply to a question, Lord PALMERSTON said that if Sir Rowland had been Postmaster-General he would not have received any increase of salary while he held the office, but would have had to go out with a change of Government. (Laughter and cheers.) The vote was agreed to *nem. con.*

The consideration of the civil service estimates were then proceeded with, and several votes were agreed to.

In the course of the discussion Mr. Cox moved to report progress, and he was resolved to divide the House upon it. He had been in the House until two o'clock yesterday, and he had been there also from twelve o'clock yesterday until the present hour (twelve o'clock).

Colonel DICKSON was sorry that the constant attendance of the hon. member was such an impediment to public business. ("Oh!") He hoped the hon. member would allow a fair chance of having the estimates discussed. Rejected by 59 to 7.

Mr. CRAWFORD moved the second reading of the Weighing of Grain (London) Bill. Mr. AYRTON strongly opposed the bill, and moved that the House be counted. Only thirty members being present, the House adjourned at one o'clock.

THE NATIONAL GALLERY.

On Monday, in answer to Mr. Herbert and Mr.

Gregory, Mr. W. COWPER said, in reference to the rejection by the House of the vote for a new National Gallery at Burlington House, that the Royal Academy had no difficulty in undertaking to build a gallery for themselves on the site of Burlington House, provided there was an entrance in Piccadilly. This would cost them 80,000*l.*, which sum they would have been prepared to contribute towards the erection of the new gallery, and to the improvement of the building in Trafalgar-square. But in reference to the interests of the public, it was necessary that it should be known that the rooms which would be vacated by the Royal Academy in Trafalgar-square were not of such large extent as those in the South Kensington Museum, where the Turner, Sheepshanks, and other English collections of pictures were placed, and the vacating by the Royal Academy would not afford space for accommodating the whole of the national collection. It would be indispensable to obtain a large area at the back of the gallery in Trafalgar-square for the reception of the whole of the public pictures—covered by St. Martin's workhouse, Archbishop Tenison's library, and some private houses. There would not be any serious obstacle to obtaining the site of those buildings, but the removal of the barracks at the back of the gallery was a more difficult question, and if it could be done the sum required for the acquisition of the new area would be about 300,000*l.*, and this for a space of the same size as that which was available at Burlington House. He was not able at present to state the views of the Government on a subject requiring great consideration.

POSTPONED BILLS.

Mr. H. SKYMOUR postponed his Church of England Estates Bill to next Wednesday, and Mr. BOUVERIE his Uniformity Act Amendment Bill to Tuesday next, the 21st inst.

THE CONFERENCE.

In reply to Mr. B. Osborne, Lord PALMERSTON said he had not seen the declaration of the Danish plenipotentiaries at the last meeting of the conference. In reply to Mr. Kinglake, his lordship said he had not heard any statement that the belligerents had entrusted the duty of determining the line that is to divide the Duchy of Schleswig to the French Ambassador, and he was not inclined to believe it.

THE NAWAB OF THE CARNAIC.

On the motion for going into committee of supply, Mr. SMOLLETT moved for a select committee to inquire into the claims of Azeem-Jah to the title and dignity of Nawab of the Carnatic. He entered at length into the case, and contended that truth and justice had been violated, and that an inquiry was needed. Mr. GREENFELL opposed the motion. He did not believe that any case of injustice had been made out. Sir J. FERGUSON took a similar view. Mr. H. BAILLIE supported the motion. A discussion followed, in which Mr. Vansittart, Colonel Sykes, and Mr. Lowe took part. On a division, the motion was negatived by 69 votes to 45.

Mr. HENNESSY complained that no member of the Government had taken part in the debate. The division had been taken by surprise. An hon. gentleman on that side of the House was ready to answer the Secretary for India if he had risen. Mr. MALINS charged Sir C. Wood with having joined with the Attorney-General in laughing at the last observation of Mr. Hennessy. Lord PALMERSTON defended Sir C. Wood, and said he would have risen but that the motion was fully answered by gentlemen opposite. Sir F. KELLY said he should bring the matter forward again. After a few words from the Attorney-General and Sir M. Farquhar, Mr. FORSTER said he thought it would have been better for the Government to have stated the reasons for the policy they had pursued. Sir C. Wood said he had not spoken because he was anxious to have the last word. The transactions complained of took place before he became Secretary for India. Lord STANLEY said no decision had been come to by him on the matter. He should have been better pleased if Sir C. Wood had answered the case put forward by Mr. Smollett.

The House then went into committee of supply, and agreed to several votes for the civil service. The House then resumed.

THE WAR IN NEW ZEALAND.

In committee of the whole House, Mr. CARDWELL, in moving a resolution as to a loan to New Zealand, gave a brief account of the recent war proceedings in that country. He said all the news which had reached the Government was favourable, and although the Melbourne papers spoke of a reverse having been sustained by our troops, no such news had been received at the Colonial Office. If any reverse had been sustained, it was not by any principal command. He had every reason to believe that the war was about to close. The loan in question was one proposed last year, but not carried out then, and the amount to be guaranteed was 1,000,000*l.*

After a brief discussion, the debate was adjourned.

COLLECTION OF TAXES.

On the motion for the third reading of the Collection of Taxes Bill, Sir W. JOLLIFFE opposed it, and moved the adjournment of the debate. After some discussion, the motion for adjournment was negatived on division. The bill was further opposed, and finally the CHANCELLOR of the EXCHEQUER consented to postpone the third reading to Thursday next.

The other orders were disposed of, and the House adjourned at twenty minutes to two o'clock.

THE GALWAY CONTRACT.—A deputation headed by Lord Clanricarde have obtained from the Postmaster-General a delay of a month previously to the cancellation of the Galway postal contract, to enable a proposal to be made for carrying on the service in an efficient manner.

REVELATIONS OF THE IRISH CENSUS.

(From the *Liberator*.)

The publication of the Census of the "Religious profession" of the people of Ireland ought, if anything can, to ensure a national movement for the immediate abolition of that great wrong and great fraud—the Established Church of Ireland. We all knew, before these elaborate volumes were issued, that the members of the Establishment constituted only a miserable minority of the population; that there were whole districts where their numbers were only nominal, and other whole districts where their numbers were nil. We knew that the clergy of these districts drew large revenues without doing any duty, and without the possibility of their doing any duty. We knew that there were tithes without people, and churches without attendants; but it was only when we came to take the facts in detail that we became conscious of the full magnitude of the evil. We wish we could reproduce these facts in our columns, but they could scarcely be contained in a whole number of this journal. We must be content, therefore, with a summary and illustrations. This will lead us, in the first instance, to the religious profession of the people in the counties of Ireland; for we gave, last year, the general result with respect to the provinces. Of these counties there are sixteen in the province of Leinster, in only four of which the Established Church numbers more than 12 per cent. of the population. In Drogheda her adherents are 7 per cent.; in Kilkenny, 4 per cent.; in Louth, 6 per cent.; in Meath, 5 per cent.; in Westmeath, 7 per cent. The province of Munster contains eleven counties, and in only one of these does the Establishment reach 12 per cent. The following are the proportions in the other ten:—

Clare	2.0 per cent.
Cork, E.R.	6.4 "
Cork, W.R.	8.2 "
Kerry	3.1 "
Limerick City	9.5 "
Limerick County	3.3 "
Tipperary, N.R.	6.7 "
Tipperary, S.R.	3.9 "
Waterford City	8.5 "
Waterford County	2.9 "

We next take the province of Ulster—where Presbyterianism is endowed. Even here the Establishment comprises only 20 per cent. of the population, while the Roman Catholics number 50 per cent., and the Presbyterians 26 per cent. We find that, amongst the counties of this province, Antrim contains only 18 per cent. of members of the Established Church; Cavan, 14 per cent.; Donegal, 12 per cent.; Londonderry, 16 per cent.; and Monaghan, 14 per cent.

The province of Connaught contains six counties. We give the results of the Census of each of those counties:—

Galway Town	4.9 per cent.
Galway County	2.9 "
Leitrim	9.1 "
Mayo	2.6 "
Roscommon	3.6 "
Sligo	8.4 "

These, however, are only general results. They are melancholy enough, but they are nothing like what an examination of the population of the towns discloses. We take first the towns containing 1,500 persons and upwards, which offer the most favourable comparison for the Establishment. There are 150 of such towns in Ireland. Amongst them we find results such as the following:—

Town.	Established Church.	Population.
Ardee	166	2,925
Askeaton	103	1,637
Ballaghaderreen	19	1,583
Ballinrobe	70	2,506
Cahiriveen	79	1,802
Cappoquin	58	1,774
Castleisland	34	1,702
Charleville	125	2,468
Gort	57	2,122
Granard	82	1,671
Kanturk	58	2,286

And so we might go all through the alphabet. It is, however, necessary to do so? It is to be remembered that these are favourable illustrations, for the rural districts furnish much more unfavourable specimens.

What these districts do really furnish may be gathered from two sources of information contained in these volumes. The first relates to the benefices as such, with their Church populations classified according to numbers. It is an advantage that a return was presented to the House of Commons in 1834 which enables us to make a comparative statement under this head. The result of this comparison is as follows:—

ESTABLISHED CHURCH.	1834.	1861.
Number of parishes containing no members	204	199
1. and not more than 20 members	456	575
More than 20, not more than 50 members	382	416
" 50, " 100	307	349
" 100, " 200	317	270
" 200, " 500	315	309
" 500, " 1,000	197	141
" 1,000, " 2,000	125	106
" 2,000, " 5,000	76	53
" 5,000, " 10,000	14	8
" 10,000, " 20,000	2	—
" 20,000, " 30,000	—	—

This comparison is certainly not very favourable to the Establishment. At the end of twenty-seven years, there are still 199 parishes—or only four fewer than they were in 1834—without a single member of the Established Church; the number of parishes with fewer than twenty members has increased in that period from 456 to 575; the num-

ber with fewer than fifty members has increased from 382 to 416; and the number with fewer than one hundred members has increased from 307 to 349.

These figures might be extended to almost any length. We might, for instance, show the Established Church population of each parish. We might give the diocesan returns, with the revenues, or we might quote, one by one, the populations of every parish where the Established Church exists in name only—which it does in three-fourths of the parishes of Ireland. But from each one of these parishes revenues are claimed; and in each one rectors and vicars are maintained. We hope, however, to follow out this analysis in another number.

Court, Official, and Personal News.

The Queen and Court reached Windsor on Wednesday from Balmoral. A few days before leaving her Highland residence, her Majesty visited Mr. M'Kenzie, farmer, Ardoch, who has been dangerously ill for some time. With her usual thoughtfulness, she caused intimation of her intended visit to be made to the sick man, and next day sent a special messenger to make inquiry as to his state.

Since her Majesty's return to Windsor Castle, the Queen has taken daily walking exercise in the slopes and Royal gardens. Her Majesty has also inspected the progress made towards completion of the mausoleum at Frogmore during her absence. The Queen, we are happy to say, is in the enjoyment of excellent health and spirits. Towards the latter end of next month her Majesty will go to Osborne, and on the 1st of September the Queen will again visit Balmoral.—*Court Journal*.

Her Majesty has just added 160 acres to the property in which her marine residence at Cowes, in the Isle of Wight, is situated, by the purchase of a couple of farms for 5,400*l.*

The Queen, Princess Louis of Hesse, Prince Alfred, Princess Helena, Princess Louise, and Princess Beatrice, attended Divine service on Sunday morning in the private chapel of Windsor Castle. The Dean of Windsor officiated.

The Queen, accompanied by the Princess Louis of Hesse, went to London on Monday expressly to visit the Duke of Newcastle, and afterwards went to the Deanery at Westminster.

The Prince and Princess of Wales attended Divine service at the Chapel Royal, St. James's, on Sunday morning. The Sub-Dean preached from Luke x. 41, 42.

By command of her Majesty there was a grand state ball at Buckingham Palace on Friday evening, to which a party of between 1,800 and 1,900 was invited. The state ball announced for the 27th instant is postponed till the 29th. The Prince and Princess of Wales will give their first ball on Monday, the 4th of July, at Marlborough House.

On Monday evening, the Prince and Princess of Wales, accompanied by Prince Alfred and Prince Louis of Hesse, went to the Caledonian Ball.

Viscountess Palmerston had an assembly on Saturday night, at Cambridge House, Piccadilly. A numerous and brilliant circle of the leading members of the foreign diplomatic body, and nearly 400 members of the aristocracy, were present.

The Duke of Newcastle is in a very lamentable condition, and since his relapse on Wednesday last his case has caused much anxiety to his family.

The Prince of Wales has recently consented to accept the office of patron to the Church of England Book-hawking Union, and has forwarded a donation of ten guineas to its funds.

The Speaker of the House of Commons has received an address from the people of Palermo, thanking the English nation for the reception given to General Garibaldi.

The Wolverine, iron-cased corvette, and Research and Enterprise rams, arrived in Great Yarmouth Roads on Monday.

Law and Police.

THE YELVERTON CASE is still before the House of Lords. On Friday and Saturday Mr. Rolfe at great length stated the case of the Major, and was followed on the same side by Sir Hugh Cairns. Yesterday the Attorney-General spoke at great length on behalf of Mrs. (Longworth) Yelverton.

DOMINICANS IN IRELAND.—The Irish Rolls Court has just pronounced an important decision upon two bequests of 500*l.* each made by a citizen of Cork named Michael John Sims, on behalf of the Dominican order of friars. The first bequest was made to two Romish clergymen in Dublin, "to be applied as they shall deem best for the education and maintenance of two priests of the order of St. Dominick, in Ireland," and the other was left generally to the Romish clergymen of St. Mary's Dominican Priory, Cork. The payment of these bequests was opposed by James Richard Sims, a relative or perhaps a son of the deceased, on the ground that they were illegal and opposed alike to the letter and spirit of the law. Mr. Brewster, the ablest pleader at the Irish bar, was retained for the next of kin, and argued that, according to the legal policy of this country for the last 170 years, such a bequest would be unlawful, as act after act had been passed by the legislature to prevent the existence of the "regular" clergy in Ireland, and so lately as 1829 the legislature had decreed that any Jesuit or member of any religious order or community, admitting any person to become a regular ecclesiastic, or administering an oath or vow to the same, should be adjudged guilty of a misdemeanour. The Master of the Rolls has decided that the bequests are illegal, but he has reserved his decision upon another point, viz., the future destination of the money, for according to the law of *ci-pres*, it cannot revert to the next of kin, but must be devoted, according to the judgment of the court, to some charitable object such as the testator would have been likely to patronise.

Literature.

SIR JOHN ELIOT.*

There are still numbers in England to whom Charles the First is a "Blessed Martyr," and the great patriots by whom his despotic schemes were baffled, a number of violent, unmanageable, impious rebels, whose memory ought to be consigned to eternal infamy. Our great parties live on from generation to generation. Owing, indeed, to the continual progress of freedom, the Tories of one age occupy the position which was held by the Whigs of the preceding one, but not the less do they feel themselves bound to defend those to whose name they have succeeded, while at the same time they pronounce the most emphatic condemnation of their policy by abandoning the very ground for which the departed champions of their party most strenuously contended. Thus it happens that to-day the respective merits of Cavalier and Roundhead are discussed with as much keenness as those of Liberal and Conservative, and the unfortunate Roundheads are vehemently denounced by those who are for ever boasting of that "glorious constitution" which owes so much of its majesty and freedom to the toils and sacrifices of these ill-requited men. Charles I. was a king, he professed extreme devotion to the Church, and in fact, died on her behalf; the Church has, with becoming gratitude, enrolled his name among the "noble army of martyrs," and required the people of England on the 30th January in each year to be afraid (as Macaulay puts it) "that the blood of the Royal Martyr may be visited on themselves and their children." How could there be a clearer case against those Hampdens, Eliots, Pymes, and above all that horrid Cromwell, by whom all this wickedness was wrought? Happily such prejudices are not so omnipotent as once they were. Of course, High-Church devotees who venerate the memory of Laud and would fain give him a place in the red-letter calendar of the Anglican Church, still find their chief pleasure in celebrating the goodness of a King who would have trampled out every spark of English liberty; and not a few Evangelicals, intensely bitter against Dissent, but with a zeal which is not according to knowledge, swell these pæans in honour of the most determined foes of their principles and their real ancestors: but no candid and educated man of the present day would so far compromise his own reputation as to indulge in the talk current among a generation that had been reared on Hume and Clarendon. The respectful tone which even the *Saturday Review* has felt itself compelled to adopt towards the great champions of English right—whom it classes among "the noblest and finest characters in history,"—while it confesses that Charles was "as deceitful as he wished to be tyrannical," and credits him and his "base advisers" with a "deliberate design to destroy the Constitution, and erect a despotism on its ruins"—is a sufficient proof of the effect which historic evidence has produced on all but those whose minds are so blinded by passion that they cannot see. We believe, however, that even yet full justice has not been done to the Puritan party. The general outline of the history of the period gives but a very faint conception of the work they did, and the difficulties in despite of which it was done. It is only a close examination of the details that reveals to us the extent of the danger with which the country was threatened, and the wisdom and firmness that were necessary to secure its deliverance; and we owe a debt of gratitude to those who, by carefully searching the public records of the times, and developing the secret history of this grand struggle, have taught us to put some fair estimate on the achievements of the popular party. Among these Mr. Forster stands pre-eminent. For thirty years he has been a patient labourer, sparing no toil in order that he might expose the craft and wickedness of the oppressor and his tools, and throw light upon the unselfish patriotism, the heroic courage, and the consummate skill with which their designs were met and defeated. A comparison between his earliest work on the "Statesmen of the Commonwealth" and his more recent productions on the same subject, will indicate with what perseverance he has prosecuted his inquiries, and how great the results to which they have led. His last, and in many respects, his most valuable, book is the elaborate biography of "Sir John Eliot," which not only clears the memory of that great man from the calumnies that have been so industriously heaped upon it, but gives us a more complete and graphic picture of the times and of the early scenes in the great Parliamentary struggle than we possessed before, or than would have been possible without the

unremitting research to which our author has devoted himself. To some it may seem as though he had given too microscopic a view, and to some extent injured the general effect by the multiplicity of minute incidents which he has introduced. And we would so far admit the force of the complaint as to confess that some improvement might have been effected in the arrangement of the material. We regret especially that in many cases the original documents have been condensed and embodied in the narrative, instead of being kept separate and complete, whether in the text or appendix, and where necessary accompanied by brief comment. But we are unwilling to urge any exceptions at all to what is undoubtedly one of the most important historical works of the day, generous and manly in tone, vigorous in its defence of the principles of liberty, sincere but not indiscriminating in its admiration of those by whom they were so nobly vindicated, and above all, so careful in its array of new and telling facts. The papers which Mr. Forster's good fortune discovered at Port Eliot, including the drafts, and in some cases corrected copies of Eliot's speeches, notes by the great statesman on the events "quorum pars magna fuit," and above all, his MS. history of the early part of the reign, are invaluable, and add greatly to the importance and interest of the book.

A right understanding of the period with which the work deals is essential to the formation of an impartial judgment of the questions at issue between the King and his Parliaments. It is not by looking at the conduct of the contending parties when their passions had become heated, when violence on the one side had provoked a corresponding feeling on the other, when the original grounds of dispute had been well-nigh forgotten in the broader issues that had been raised, that we can arrive at just conclusions as to their respective merits. We must go back to the beginning of the strife, to see whether it was caused by the unreasonable demands of the Commons or the unconstitutional encroachments of the monarch. This is the point which is thoroughly and for ever settled by this biography. After reading its thrilling narrative of the course pursued by Charles, at the instigation of his detestable favourites—of the deliberate sacrifice of principle and national interest to petty personal pique, of the wanton outrages perpetrated on popular rights, of the contemptuous disregard of the restraints alike of established constitutional precedent and solemn personal engagement, of the doings of the miserable men who were content to be the servile instruments of despotism, and who by their system of espionage and corruption would soon have sunk England to the condition of Turkey—it is hardly possible to allege that the grievances of which the people complained were imaginary, or the designs of the King innocent.

The story of Sir John Eliot, indeed, if it stood alone, is itself sufficient to show the real spirit of the rule under which England then groaned. A man of illustrious descent and high position, of eminent abilities and high moral principle, with too great a stake in the country to be a reckless innovator, much less a wild revolutionist, too noble to lend himself to any base intrigues, too sincerely loyal to desire any abatement of the just prerogative of the prince, was yet the victim of a relentless persecution which hunted him to death, and then still further vented its unsatisfied spleen by refusing permission for his bones to be laid among those of his ancestors. This illustrious patriot, who had loved his country only too well and served her only too faithfully—whose private and official life had afforded to the base spies by whom his steps were dogged, and his most harmless words and deeds chronicled, no material for accusation—who had won the confidence of the distinguished Parliament in which he sat, and of his fellow-countrymen in general, by the mingled boldness and moderation of his counsels—and whose speeches, as they are preserved to us, reveal a man of great oratorical power, and singular acquaintance with his country's history, of grave and dignified bearing, and of firm determination to guard that precious heritage of liberty which had been handed down to him by a noble ancestry—was left to rot in the traitor's cell, and doomed to rest in the traitor's grave. It is well that the tale of this lifelong oppression should be thus fully told. We recommended the admirers of Charles to note the way in which he dealt with a man whose one offence was that he dared fearlessly to assert the right of a British citizen:—how he did not hesitate himself to direct the measures employed against him—how he could stoop to suborn and reward the vilest men who would engage in the ignoble task of hunting down this illustrious victim—how his stony heart was proof against any appeal, either of justice or humanity, on behalf of one whom he hated with the bitterest hate of which his narrow and vindictive soul was capable. [Perhaps, after they

have read the story, so disgraceful to the oppressor, so honourable to the oppressed, they may feel that something may be said on behalf of the men whom this tyranny goaded into resistance, and that some of the sentiment wasted on the "martyr" of kingcraft might more properly have been expended on the fate of this true-hearted confessor of English liberty.

There are two or three points of interest only on which it is possible for us to touch in so brief a notice. Mr. Forster has done good service in bringing prominently into view the portraits of some of the men who were employed to do the "dirty work" of Charles and Buckingham. Foremost among them is a miserable creature, Sir James Bagge, who had secured the favour of the Duke by the most servile devotion, and the readiness to violate every law, human or divine, to advance his patron's designs—a mean, false, intriguing scoundrel, who would have bartered his own soul for gain, and who could not be expected, therefore, to care much for the rights and liberties of his country. Instinctively this man hated Eliot, and as early as the year 1625 was busy in all sorts of intrigues to injure him, and afterwards became the trusted agent, both of the King and the Duke, in their conspiracy to ruin him, both in character and fortune. The man was so utterly bad, that even Laud describes him as a "bottomless Bagge." He was charged by Lord Mohun, a confederate in villainy with whom he had quarrelled, "with having received £5,000. to provide victuals for the King's ships; with having embezzled the greater part of it to himself; with having incurred debts in the King's name which he compounded to the grievance of the people; and with having provided the ships with victuals of such vile quality that they had killed four thousand of the King's subjects." These horrible charges were held to be substantially proved, yet no penalty was inflicted. Equally flagrant was his conduct towards Sir Anthony Pell, "a simpleton of fortune," from whom he had extorted thousands for the purpose of bribing the Lord Treasurer. It was this that led Laud to pronounce him "a most base fellow," yet it was only by the casting vote of the Lord Keeper that he was condemned in a fine. The sequel is told in a letter from Garrard to Lord Wentworth:—"It pleased since his Majesty to show him extraordinary favour. For the Monday following the censure the king sent his prohibition to the Lord Keeper that the sentence should not be drawn up nor entered against him, nor no warrant should be awarded forth to imprison him. Some have endeavoured with his Majesty to take off these prohibitions, upon good grounds of reason and the practice of the court, alleging further the insolvency of Bagge's carriage since his censure, his open coming abroad, his feasting, for which even his friends condemn him. Yet nothing is altered; he is still at liberty; neither is the sentence entered." Mohun, one of his accusers named above, was cast in the same mould. He was one of the conspirators against Eliot, and one of the principal agents in the intrigues by which it was hoped to exclude him from the representation of Cornwall in Charles's third Parliament. As a reward for his dishonourable services, he was first made Vice-warden of the Stannaries, in which office he contrived by his gross frauds and oppressions to rouse all Cornwall, and afterwards raised to the peerage at the earnest solicitations of Bagge. It may give some idea of the state of the country when we find that men of this character, glozing, lying, dishonest courtiers, were those whom the King delighted to honour, and who were placed in offices of trust, and exalted even to a place among the ancient aristocracy of England. This was "Government by Prerogative"; and to it England must have submitted but for Eliot and his coadjutors.

It is pleasant to turn from men of this reptile class to some of the nobler spirits of the time, with whom this work makes us familiar. Here we have the aged Sir Edward Coke speaking with all the force of his granite-like nature, all the authority of legal knowledge and experience, and all the terseness of his plain and fearless style, in opposition to that prerogative which was attempting such dangerous encroachments on the liberty of the subject; Sir Benjamin Rudyard, who loved his country and her liberties, but was too much of a courtier ever to be a bold patriot, and who vainly hoped to hold the balance between the opposing parties; Sir Robert Cotton, who won little fame as an orator, but who rendered special service to the popular cause by allowing its leaders unlimited use of his matchless collection of manuscripts, and thus furnishing them with that historic lore they used to such good purpose—who had the calmness and moderation of a scholar, but yet displayed remarkable decision and unselfishness as a patriot—and who was ever one of Eliot's most trusted friends and allies; Sir Robert Philips, destined to so brief a career, but ever employing his

* *Sir John Eliot: A Biography.* By JOHN FORSTER. Two Vols. London: Longman.

spirited oratory for the right; Hampden, Pym, and others destined afterwards to achieve such glorious fame. We wish it were possible for us to trace minutely the course of these men, and mark the character of the obstacles over which they triumphed. But this would require an amount of space not at our command; and we can only advise our readers, who would appreciate the character of the service they rendered to their country, to study this remarkable book for themselves. It is no rearrangement of old materials, but to a great extent a new history of the period, which proves that those who have taken the most unfavourable view of Charles have been only too partial to him, and that those who have done most honour to Eliot and his friends have rendered them but scant justice.

DR. HUNTINGTON'S SERMONS.*

Sermon-criticism is a delicate, and if we are to believe some preachers, a somewhat dangerous undertaking. Their choicest denunciations are reserved for him who is guilty of this crime. "Of all hearers, my brethren, the critical hearer is most to be despised," is an actual quotation. Those who are most familiar with the creature thus branded will not be slow to join in the condemnation. Very scant mercy should be shown to that man who concerns himself with sermons solely, or mainly, that he may exercise and display his own cleverness in pointing out their errors and deficiencies. No worse fate can befall him than that he should be filled with the fruit of his own devices, until the habit has grown so strong that the message of God's tender love shall never seem to him anything more than a composition offered up for a student's dissection. But in studying the natural history of this proscribed being, inquiries at once arise as to his origin, habitat, &c. Some of these deserve very careful consideration. It may be asked whether his very existence may not be partially owing to the indiscriminating excommunication of him, just as any other attempt to destroy any legitimate species only results in the development of deformed and abnormal individuals; whether, in fact, he might not almost be exterminated if preachers were to give themselves, with set purpose, to training their hearers to habits of true and honest criticism; and whether the reward in stimulus and encouragement might not be abundant. We put it to our clerical readers whether it would not materially help them in their work to know that they were addressing a congregation which would judge their sermon according to the highest rules of critical art, recognising their preacher's individuality, and also his special aim in each sermon, and demanding nothing alien to these—neither olive-berries from the fig-tree, nor figs from the vine—prizing above all things true sincerity and godly simplicity of manner and style, while able to appreciate all true manifestations of Christian courtesy, and, withal, most tolerant of failure, because most fully aware of the cost of any truly successful effort. We venture to say that such hearers would not often be called upon to exercise this forbearance.

Published sermons ought to meet with substantially the same reception. The truth they contain is not altered by being printed, and demands as much reverence as when it is spoken from the pulpit. In each case the sermon ought to be judged according to the purpose of the preacher, expressed or implied. We may think the motive an unworthy one; but we must acknowledge it, and not estimate the production by any other rule. If, for instance, the work is simply a literary undertaking, the accident of its subject must not exclude it from the strictest literary criticism. No one who has read them would attribute such a design to Dr. Huntington's sermons. His style is everywhere secondary to his thought, and for this reason is for the most part very successful. Despite an occasional alliteration, that becomes ungraceful by its obtrusiveness, he employs the most efficient words for expressing earnest thought. Moreover, there are occasional passages which reveal powers of rich and graceful illustration. Take, for instance, the following from a sermon on "Holiness to the Lord":—

"Where is that inscription to be stamped now? Not on the vestments of any Levitical order, not on plates of sacerdotal gold, worn upon the forehead. Priest and Levite have passed by. The Jewish tabernacle has expanded into that world-wide brotherhood, where whosoever doeth righteousness is accepted. Morning has risen into day. Are we children of that day? For form we have spirit; for Gerizim and Zion our common scenery. The ministry of Aaron is ended. His ephod, with its gold, and blue, and purple, and scarlet, and fine-twined linen, and cunning work, has faded and dropped. The curious girdle, and its chains of wreathen gold, are broken. The

breastplate of judgment that lay against his heart and its fourfold row of triple jewels,—of sardius, topaz, and carbuncle,—of emerald, sapphire, and diamond,—of ligure, agate, and amethyst,—of beryl, onyx, and jasper,—has been crushed and lost. The pomegranates are cast aside like untimely fruit. The golden bells are silent. Even the mitre, with its sacred signet, and the grace of the fashion of it, has perished. All the outward glory and beauty of that Hebrew worship which the Lord commanded Moses, has vanished into the eternal splendours of the Gospel, and been fulfilled in Christ. What teaching has it left? What other than this,—that we are to engrave our holiness to the Lord, first on the heart, and then on all that the heart goes out into, through the brain and the hand. On the plates of gold our age of enterprise is drawing up from mines and beating into currency; on bales of merchandise and books of account; on the tools and bench of every handicraft; on your weights and measures; on pen, and plough, and pulpit; on the doorposts of your houses, and the utensils of your table, and the walls of your chambers; on cradle, and playthings, and school-books; on the locomotives of enterprise, and the bells of the horse, and the ships of navigation; on music-halls and libraries; on galleries of art, and the lecture desk; on all of man's inventing and building, all of his using and enjoying—for all these are trusts in a stewardship, for which the Lord of the servants reckoneth."

This singleness of purpose, with its contempt of artifice, has also resulted in some neglect of true principles of art. Many of the sermons would gain considerably in that power which their author desires, had the plan of arrangement, the contrast and connection of thought, been made as clear to the reader as they doubtless were to the writer.

Remembering the experiences of the author, we looked with considerable interest for his statement of those doctrinal truths to which he has attained. But the design of these sermons cannot be said to be doctrinal. Some men seem to investigate truth and to love it for its own sake. Even if it had no practical bearing, theology would beto them the *scientia scientiarum*. But hardly any of these sermons are direct discussions of abstract doctrinal subjects; and even where the rule seems to be departed from, the doctrinal points are ever considered in their direct practical bearing upon "the people," for whom he writes. One omission is remarkable, and needs the explanation which he volunteers:—"The Reconciliation in Christ, though by no means neglected here, has a less extended and less complete presentation, because of a desire to discuss it separately, more at large, and more at leisure, than is possible now" (p. iii.). We need not add that every page shows how the writer recognises positive religious truth as the only power by which his great practical purpose can be effected.

Resuming our process of elimination, Dr. Huntington is not an expository preacher. So little is this the case that we are inclined to call in question the correctness of some of the interpretations which are given. "Yet is she thy companion" (Mal. ii. 14), stands as a text for a sermon on "Woman's Position," and there is not a word to show the altogether peculiar signification of the prophetic language. Neander pronounces the question of the identity of James the son of Alphaeus with James the Lord's brother as the most difficult in Apostolic history, but Dr. Huntington quietly assumes it as unquestioned, attributes the Epistle to this Apostle, and builds on the fact part of a most interesting and valuable theory in a sermon on the "Four Apostles." One more instance, and our ungracious task of censure is completed. A sermon entitled, "The Soul's Coronation," has for one of its texts, "The life more than meat"—spiritual life exalted above outward and temporal concerns. Is this the idea of the text? Is it not rather reasoning from what is to what shall be given? God has given the body, and so will provide that raiment which it needs; He has given the life, and so will furnish that meat which is absolutely required to sustain it. The inferiority of meat to life is not the lesson taught, but the principle that from what God has given we may draw conclusions as to what He will give. We draw attention to this because it illustrates one of the leading thoughts in this most valuable contribution to sermon literature. Dr. Huntington constantly maintains that Christianity does not ignore nor destroy anything really human, and therefore God-given. "The Religion that is Natural" accepts and builds upon these as realities, itself being most real. The preface tells us that these sermons "have been both written and printed, because I thoroughly believe the things affirmed in them to be true." We submit that this is only a partial statement of the case. Every sermon shows that he possesses the rare gift of not simply believing certain truths, but of receiving and declaring them as most real and vivid facts. "This realising of Christ's truth only takes place when religion rises among the solid verities of existence, a thing not to be put by nor gone round, nor reasoned away, nor even left alone, but to besiege the heart with that solemn and immediate Presence, whose word is, 'Behold, I stand at the door and knock,'—to appear face

"to face before the whole roused and wakeful vision of our inward nature, and insist on being owned and obeyed."

We continue the quotation as being the valuable testimony of one who has passed through the darkness of such questionings into the clear daylight of which he speaks. "This is what appears to be most needed now among us for the true efficiency of religion. Speculative unbelief is not very formidable. The technical objections long ago lost the flavour of originality, and were always rather the after-thought and apology of a sceptical state, than the logical producers of it. The quarrel of Reason with Revelation under the umpireship of just interpretation is almost spent. The doubt that is constitutional has little to say; the doubt that is earnest commonly labours and groans its painful way to the light; and the doubt that is the offspring of a crude and conceited intellectual ambition is calmly rebuked by riper studies, outgrown with a loftier dignity of thought, and put off with childish things." Of course the sequel to this is the declaration that doubt is far less dangerous than indifference, the state of mind to which religion is not untrue, but to which it is simply unreal.

To meet this state of mind, these sermons are specially adapted. They force the conclusion upon us that the spiritual truths set forth are not professions, but most deep convictions. Of all the hindrances to the spread of the truth, enumerated by the author as springing from inadequate representation of it, none are to be found in his own method of setting forth the Gospel. Those who read them will meet with a generous catholicity of spirit towards other denominations of Christians, combined with earnest aspirations and most philosophical views as to the future unity of the Church; delicate yet unshrinking treatment of some of the most difficult of existing social problems in their relation to the Kingdom of God; and views of truth in their freshness and individuality as far removed from artificial straining after originality on the one hand as they are from traditional strictness on the other.

BRIEF NOTICES.

The Practical Works of David Clarkson, B.D. Vol. 1. (Nichol's Series of Puritan Divines.) A prefatory note to this volume presents such biographical particulars as were brought together by the late Rev. J. Blackburn, in the volume of "Select Works of Clarkson," published by the Wycliffe Society. We are well pleased to see this Nonconforming and ejected minister included in the Puritan Library; as one having very distinguished qualities as a theological writer—clearness and vigour, remarkable learning, free and tender feeling, and genuine force of utterance. The volumes to be included in this series will contain the theological and practical works of the author, to the exclusion of his controversial writings. We observe that Mr. Nichol's fourth year's issue will consist of Silbes, Vol. 7; Charnock, Vols. 1 and 2; Goodwin, Vols. 9 and 10; and the second volume of Clarkson.—*Biblical Commentary on the Old Testament.* Vol. 1. *The Pentateuch.* By C. F. KEIL, D.D., and F. DELITZSCH, D.D. *Theological and Homiletical Commentary on the Acts of the Apostles.* By G. V. LECHLER, D.D., and K. GEROK. Vol. 1. (T. and T. Clark.) These are the new volumes of Clark's Foreign Theological Library, and more important volumes, or more appropriate to the present direction of Biblical inquiry, could not possibly have been issued. Mr. Martin, of Nottingham, well practised in translation from the Germans, has given a very satisfactory version of Keil and Delitzsch. The plan of the work is, to furnish a condensed commentary, consisting not only of grammatical and historical exposition, but of "biblical commentary also (in the proper sense) thus presenting to divinity students and ministers of the Gospel, an exegetical handbook, from which they may obtain some help towards a full understanding of the Old Testament economy, as far as the theological learning of the Church has as yet been able to fathom it." There is further, a general introduction, followed by special prefaces to Genesis and Exodus. The commentary extends in this volume to the close of the narrative of the Plagues of Egypt. There are, as is well known, some of our advanced critics, who, following hard after the extreme rational school of Germany, are ready to sneer at Keil, and to put down Delitzsch; but those who have a true reverence for the ancient Scriptures,—who understand that the Old Testament is the basis of the New, and in what sense it is so,—and who are able to make use of a work of real learning, will warmly welcome the rendering of this valuable production into our own language. The commentary on the Acts, translated by the Rev. Paton Gloag, is a further portion of Lange's *Bibelwerk*, and follows the plan of the Gospels already published, the Exegetical Explanations and Dogmatic Thoughts being by Professor Lechler, of Leipzig, the author of well-reputed works on the Apostolic Age and on English Deism; and the Homiletical Hints being by the Pastor Gerok, of Stuttgart. Like the preceding volumes of the great commentary which it carries forward, it con-

* *Sermons for the People.* By F. D. HUNTINGTON, D.D., Preacher to the University, and Plummer Professor of Christian Morals in the College at Cambridge, U.S. London: Arthur Miall.

tains much exposition that is of both noble breadth and exhaustive minuteness. It seems to us more perfectly executed, according to the general idea of Lange, than such of the Gospel-Portions as fell to the hand of the excellent Oosterzee. While preachers especially will value its rich suggestion, all students of the Acts will find it a most important addition to their helps to the textual study of the original and the doctrinal and practical use of its contents.—*Voices of Sacred Song for Quiet Hours, from One Hundred Authors.* Edited by W. F. CUSSELL. (Nisbet and Co.) This volume contains the finest things that are to be found in the general range of our sacred lyrical poetry: and may be advantageously compared with many similar selections. Still, we miss several writers not less worthy to be represented than those who are here; and find not a few pieces that we think scarcely deserving to be included. The editor was not well-informed or wise to insert "The Blind Poet's Vision" under Milton's name, even though he expresses his uncertainty. The arrangement is alphabetical, according to authorship. It is a rich and precious book for quiet and devout hours. We are glad that De Vere, and Lynch, and Monsell, have not been overlooked.—*The Life of John Calvin, "the Man of Geneva."* For Young Persons. By the Author of "The Story of Martin Luther," &c. (J. F. Shaw and Co.) An excellently written memoir, especially for the young, but more suited than most larger works to the middle-class general reader. It appears most appropriately at the present time, and it is to be hoped may excite, by its wonderful interest as a story, the attention of many who are little acquainted with the root-principles of the Reformation theology, and who, influenced chiefly by more or less deserved reprobation of some phases of the ecclesiastical opinion and rule of Calvin, are unfamiliar with the lofty character and wholly devoted life of the Reformer who has left the deepest impression on the scientific theology of orthodoxy, and has no rival, in any age, in general influence on the thought of the Church, unless it be Augustine.—*On the Types and Symbols of the Vessels of the Tabernacle, and in Solomon's Temple.* (H. K. Lewis.) The writer is not very competent to write a good book, or even a good title. The volume contains nothing worth study.—*The Domestic Altar.* By the Rev. ESEN. TEMPLE. Third Thousand. (John Snow.) We believe few forms of devotion for family use have received more approbation in Evangelical Dissenting circles; and, though certainly not of the highest order of spiritual thought and aspiration, and not even of the most natural and devotionally appropriate expression, they have a large measure of fitness to general use, where such assistances cannot be dispensed with.—*Poems.* By B. H. FARQUHAR. (F. Pitman.) The author of "The Pearl of Days," so widely circulated and admired several years ago, here appeals to the thoughtful and devout as a singer. There is much grace in her song—much that is wise, imaginative, true in feeling, and earnest in piety. There are great verbal inaccuracies and defects in a few places; such as,

"thou mad'st the sun,
And hung the moon on high"—

and,
"Syllabing, on moorland sod,
Words from out the heart of God,"—

and,
"Where nature's choirs sing."

The volume speaks delightfully for the heart of the author; but is rather one interesting for the circumstances of its authorship, and for the pure excellence of its substance, than for its vitality as poetry.—*The Crisis of Being.* By DAVID THOMAS, D.D. (Jackson, Walford, and Co.) The fourth edition of a work which has great reputation,—which we have ourselves cordially commended to young men,—and which for suggestiveness, large experience, and power over the conscience and heart, is still one of the author's best productions.—*Jesus Only.* By J. OSWALD JACKSON. (Jackson, Walford, and Co.) Deeply earnest, and fitted to arouse the careless and insensible; but, to speak the whole truth, something quite different from what we conceive to ourselves as the best "guide to the anxious, and companion to the dying bed."—*A Manual of Diet and Regimen, for Physician and Patient.* By HORACE DOBELL, M.D. (Churchill and Sons.) Intended to supply a felt want,—based on the most careful scientific investigations and the most enlightened experience,—adapted to patients by its clear and important directions, and to medical men by its useful classification of ascertained facts and summaries of professional opinion.—*The Peep of Day.* (Hatchard and Co.) It is enough to say that this is the hundred and eighty-first thousand of a book that has never been approached in popularity by any other work of the class, and that is most probably known more widely than any other children's book that is published.

SIEGE OPERATIONS AT CHATHAM.—A review of the troops at Chatham by his Royal Highness the Commander-in-Chief on Saturday assumed the shape of siege operations conducted against the fortifications on Chatham Lines. The Prince of Wales and all his brothers were present, and Prince Louis of Hesse also accompanied the party. The day was in every respect favourable, and both as a spectacle, and in a military point of view, the operations were a success. The navy assisted, and the novel spectacles were exhibited of the blowing up of a boom, of the effect of torpedoes fired under water, and the explosion of mines which had been regularly constructed by engineers.

Miscellaneous News.

MADELINE SMITH, whose extraordinary trial for the murder of a French suitor created so much interest some years ago, is reported to have died of a broken heart. She married, and tried to hide herself from the world, but her evil fate followed her wherever she went, and involved her and her husband in misfortunes which have brought both of them to a premature grave.

HAMMERSMITH AND CITY RAILWAY.—This new line of railway was opened for public traffic on Monday. The line forms a junction with the Great Western Railway, commencing at Green-lane, about a mile from the Paddington station, passing by Notting-hill and Shepherd's-bush, terminating at the Broadway at Hammersmith. A short branch, forming a junction with the West London Railway, gives access to Kensington and the districts south of the Thames.

THE GARIBALDI TESTIMONIAL.—A meeting of the City Garibaldi Committee was held on Monday evening at the London Tavern. After some discussion it was resolved that for the present the testimonial fund should be closed. Mr. J. Richardson mentioned that he had good reason to believe that Garibaldi would revisit England before long.

SUICIDE OF AN INDEPENDENT MINISTER.—On Wednesday last a shocking affair occurred at Keyworth, Notts; Mr. Suttercliff, the Independent minister of the village, committing suicide by cutting his throat. A fortnight ago the son of the deceased committed suicide by taking prussic acid, and this had such an effect upon the father that his friends considered it necessary to watch him. On Wednesday morning he left home to go to Mr. Page's, at Stanton-on-the-Wolds, but, as he did not return at the expected time, his friends were alarmed, and a search was made. Some time afterwards he was found in a plantation with his throat cut, and quite dead. An inquest is to be held on the body.

WHOLESALE POISONING AT BIRMINGHAM.—More than thirty men and boys were poisoned at Birmingham, on Thursday, by eating of an Indian berry resembling a bean, used in the manufacture of oil. The berries formed portion of a quantity of unclaimed goods sold by auction by the London and North-Western Railway Company. Some of them were scattered about, and, owing to their agreeable taste, were rapidly picked up and eaten. Those who had partaken of the berries were shortly afterwards attacked with symptoms of poisoning, and thirty-three of them were admitted to the hospital. Fortunately, there was no delay in applying antidotes, and all of the persons affected have recovered.

THE PERMISSIVE BILL.—The following is the minority of thirty-five members who voted in favour of Mr. Lawson's bill on Wednesday last:—Sir A. Agnew, Mr. T. Barnes, Mr. J. Blake, Sir A. W. Buller, Sir H. R. F. Davis, Colonel F. Davis, Mr. F. Dundas, Mr. A. M. Dunlop, Mr. J. Ennis, Sir De L. Evans, Mr. W. Ewart, Mr. A. S. Finlay, Mr. S. Gurney, Mr. G. Hadfield, Major Hamilton, Sir J. Hanmer, Mr. M. Hassard, Mr. R. Ingham, Mr. W. H. G. Langton, Mr. J. Mackie, Mr. D. Morris, Mr. W. Morrison, Mr. E. O'Neill, Sir H. O. Owen, Mr. H. Pease, Mr. R. C. Price, Mr. T. J. A. Robertes, Mr. D. Robertson, Sir W. Scott, Mr. W. D. Seymour, Mr. J. Tollemache, Mr. H. H. Vivian, Mr. E. Warner, Mr. G. H. Whalley, Mr. J. Wyld, Tellers, Mr. W. Lawson, Mr. T. Bazley.

MURDERS.—A horrible murder was committed late on Wednesday night, at the Lion Tavern, in the New Cattle Market. The murderer was an under-waiter or potman there, and his victim his fellow-servant, the housemaid, with whom he was enamoured. Jealousy appears to have been his motive. The prisoner was examined at the Clerkenwell Police-court on Thursday and was remanded.—Sheffield was on Friday the scene of a horrible tragedy. A saw-grinder named Myers deliberately cut the throat of his wife because she declined to give him all the money she had, which he would have spent in drink. The unhappy woman died almost immediately, and her brutal murderer then attempted to take his own life. He inflicted a severe gash upon his throat, but though dangerously wounded, it is believed that he will recover.

THE LONDON SHAKESPEARE MEMORIAL COMMITTEE.—A correspondent writes to the *Daily News*:—"The business of this committee was brought to a close on Monday by a resolution to place the small balance remaining after paying expenses in the hands of trustees for several years, most probably until the completion of the Thames embankment. The Green-park site appears to be given up for want of funds, and the Thames embankment site is chosen because it will be long before it can claim a statue. After all the cry, the wool collected has only amounted to about 1,100*l.*, 800*l.* of which has been absorbed in expenses, leaving only 300*l.* for the proposed trustees to take care of. Nearly 1,100*l.* has been 'promised,' but, in the present condition of the project, there is little prospect of its being paid. The council of five who were to do everything have done no more than the committee of 500; they have sat for six months without hatching so much as a statuette."

THE OXFORD COMMEMORATION.—The Sheldonian Theatre was the scene of the customary proceedings of commemoration on Wednesday. The undergraduates were more than usually noisy. Lord Derby was cheered vigorously; Mr. Bright's name was received with hisses; Mr. Gladstone's, with mingled applause and groans, the latter somewhat predominating; Garibaldi's name was the signal for a storm of applause, as was also the Queen's. Prussia and Austria were well hissed, while Denmark received

unmistakeable marks of sympathy. "The North" was faintly cheered; "The South," vigorously, and a Southern officer who appeared in the area in his uniform received several rounds of applause, which he acknowledged by bowing repeatedly to the gallery. Some of the University authorities were received with much disfavour. A few minutes after eleven o'clock the real business of the day began by the entrance of the procession, consisting of the Vice-Chancellor, the noblemen, the Doctors, and the Proctors, preceded by the bedells. When the members of the procession had reached their places, the National Anthem was sung with tolerable effect, and the Vice-Chancellor opened the proceedings in the usual way; but he had scarcely begun to speak when a Babel of sound burst forth which completely drowned his voice, and for about half an hour everything had to be conducted in dumb show. In vain the Vice-Chancellor gesticulated as one praying for silence; the noise continued unintermittently during his speech, during the entrance of the new doctors, and during the presentation for their degrees of the Archbishop of Armagh, the Earl of Bandon, Lord Overstone, and M. Thierry, who appeared astonished at the license allowed. On the presentation of Sir Rowland Hill, the undergraduates at last turned their attention to the proceedings, greeting the author of the penny postage with loud cheers and a few facetious remarks. Convocation obtained its groans in contrast with loud cheers for Professor Jowett, and its unpopularity was no doubt connected with its refusal of the proposal to raise that gentleman's stipend. Degrees were also conferred upon Mr. Arthur Helps, Mr. Cayley, and Captain Jones, the latter of whom was very much cheered. With the Crewian Oration, which followed on the degrees, and was delivered by the Professor of Poetry, Mr. Arnold, the noise recommenced. An obnoxious Pro-Proctor, seen behind the chair of the Vice-Chancellor, was told to come out and show himself; and on his declining to respond to the invitation, the Vice-Chancellor was requested to "whip behind"—a "hit" which caused a great deal of laughter. The prize compositions were heard with a moderate degree of attention.

THE FOSSILS OF THE CAVE OF BRUNIQUEL.—A very important paper, which has been looked for with great interest for some little time, was read on Thursday night at the Royal Society by Professor Owen, who has recently secured for the British Museum a most valuable treasure-trove, consisting of a very large collection of fossils, animal and human, from a cave in France, of undoubted authenticity and positively contemporaneous. This great body of evidence bearing on the antiquity of man has been obtained under singular circumstances. The fossils came from the Cave of Bruniquel, in the department of Tarn et Garonne, which, in 1863, was first explored by the proprietor, Vicomte de Lastic St. Jal, who obtained from it numerous specimens of remains of animals, flint implements, bone implements, fashioned and carved by means of the flint knives, and, finally, what the Vicomte believed to be human remains, all embedded in the breccia. On receiving a letter to this effect, Professor Owen proceeded in January, 1864, to Bruniquel, explored the cavern, observed other human remains *in situ*, and determined among the collection of fossil animals the remains of a reindeer and of two kinds of extinct deer, a few remains of red deer, the extinct *Bos primigenius*, and many other species. About 80 per cent. of the beasts killed for food by the primitive inhabitants of the cavern consisted of a large variety of the reindeer. The Vicomte de Lastic St. Jal had, some months previously, communicated his discovery to his own Government, who had treated his communication with neglect; and it was only after a long delay that the Vicomte resolved on addressing a letter to the British Museum. Professor Owen seems to have promptly perceived the possibilities which lay beneath such a statement, and after one or two further inquiries started off personally, and, at the cost of great fatigue in travelling, visited the spot. After inspecting the cave, he was able to satisfy himself of the value of the discovery, and, immediately returning to England, requested the trustees of the Museum to acquiesce without delay in the addition of this treasure to our national stores. Meantime, however, a remarkable episode occurred. The visit of Professor Owen appears to have stimulated the French authorities, and Professors Milne-Edwards and Lartet were despatched on a commission of inspection. They also recognised the value of the discovery, and presently an offer was made from the French Government slightly outbidding that which Professor Owen had made, under the necessary reserve of approval by the trustees. The Vicomte de Lastic St. Jal honourably adhered, however, to his verbal treaty to the professor, who telegraphed the assent of the trustees. Thus this large collection of fossils—some 1,500, many still imbedded in the calcified mould of mud in which they were found beneath the stalagmite—is now deposited in the British Museum; and the history of these specimens is being carefully deciphered by Professor Owen, who will, it is understood, find in them materials for more than one contribution to the history of fossil man. His present communication was confined to an account of the cavern and of the human remains; a calvarium, the back part of a cranium, and the jaws and teeth of adult and young individuals, were specified. The cranial characters were compared with those of the skull from Neanderthal, and that from Engis, valley of the Meuse; also with the crania from the lake dwellings and ancient burial-grounds of Switzerland, described in the "*Crania Helvetica*" of Rutimeyer and His. The most perfect calvarium from Bruniquel most nearly

resembled, in size and shape, a skull from the Pflaube of Steinberg. It had not the variety of the great development of the region of the frontal sinuses, as in the Batavian skull figured by Blumenbach in "Dec. ultima LXIII.," and in the Neanderthal cranium. Nor were there any characters indicative of an inferior or transitional type. The evidence of the contemporaneity of the human remains with those of the extinct and other animals was conclusive. Thus the failure of the jawbone of Moulin-Quignon is more than amply compensated. The splendid series of specimens acquired by Professor Owen for the British Museum were then exhibited. His next communication will be devoted to the animal remains.—*The Lancet*.

Gleanings.

A machine for washing dishes has lately been invented and patented.—*American paper*.

A sheep dog was a few days since stung to death by bees at Freshwater, in the Isle of Wight.

At Cork races there will be a race the riders in which will be ladies.

Probably there are no two words which more distinctly point out cause and consequence than these—*gin and bitters*.

A victim of sea-sickness described his sensation thus:—"The first hour I was afraid I should die; and the second hour I was afraid I shouldn't!"

ABSENCE OF MIND.—The most recent case of absence of mind is that of an editor who lately copied from a hostile paper one of his own articles, and headed it—"We tried Attempt at Wit."

The crusade against dogs in Liverpool has been carried out with savage determination. Upwards of a thousand dogs have been destroyed in the course of a month.

Here is the pleasant name of a handbook for the use of students, just published at Frankfurt:—"Häntsewätschoukouangtsongmou; Bibliotheca Sinologica, als Wegweiser zur Sinologischen Literatur."

A STEAM GUN.—General Butler has got a steam-gun in his encampment on the James River whose performance has been so rapid as to astonish the army. Some Confederate prisoners inquired eagerly on coming into camp whether they "loaded it all night and fired it all day."

It is stated by Mr. Alderman Mechi that a good deal of land in London, about the Royal Exchange, is now worth one million five hundred pounds per acre, and that a site in that neighbourhood about the size of a nobleman's drawing-room would command a ground rental of 1,000*l.* per annum, equal to the rental of many thousand acre farms.

TO PUT OUT FIRE.—In reference to the Cashbury-park calamity, "Presence of Mind" writes:—"A young lady, a relation of my own, having set fire to her dress in the way described, and being in her bed-room, immediately jumped into bed and drew the clothes over her; and having thus put out the fire without difficulty, she escaped without material injury."

UNFORTUNATE AT COMPLIMENTS.—It is related of a Parisian portrait-painter, that having recently painted the portrait of a lady, a critic who had just dropped in to see what was going on in the studio, exclaimed, "It is very nicely painted; but why did you take such an ugly model?" "It is my mother," calmly replied the artist. "Oh, pardon, a thousand times," from critic in the greatest confusion. "You are right; I ought to have perceived it. She resembles you completely."

THE LATEST PASQUINADE.—The Romans are laughing over the following, which was lately posted on the celebrated statue:—Query: What ails the Pope? Answer: Tumour (tumour). Q: What's the cause of it? A: Strike out the initial T—Umour (moisture). Q: What will be the consequence of it? A: Strike out the initial U—More (he dies). Q: When is it going to happen? A: Strike out the initial M—Ore (within a few hours). Q: And who'll take his place? A: Strike out the initial O—Re (the King). Q: Which King? A: Strike out the initial R—E (Emmanuel).

THE "KILKENNY CATS."—Notes and Queries has explained that the story of the "Kilkenny cats" had its foundation in an atrocious act of cruelty. A regiment of Hessians quartered in the town in 1803 used to tie two cats by the tails, hang them across clothes lines, head downwards, and watch them tearing each other to death. The officers prohibited the amusement, which, however, continued, till one day, the officer of the day arrived a little too suddenly. Unable to untie the cats, a soldier cut off their tails, and when they were perceived, explained that two cats (which had effected their escape) had fought so desperately that nothing was left but their tails.

BUTTER-MAKING.—A case in Chancery has revealed one of the mysteries of butter-making. Two partners in the ownership of a "patent" for "purifying bad, rancid, or deteriorated butter," fell out and came before Vice-Chancellor Kindersley to settle their differences. In the course of the evidence it came out that one of the parties had used "flare," or pork fat, and "milk," or beef suet, and sometimes "a small quantity of either salt, starch, sugar, or saltpetre, wherewithal to adulterate the butter made at the establishment." But that was not all. It was the very basis of the action that this process was no new invention at all, but that the same materials were used as were "generally used for the adulteration of butter."

ERRORS OF THE PRESS.—I have been referred to a volume of popular sermons, in which, owing to the

negligence of the proof-readers, a deplorable number of typographical errors appeared. One of these, as if in reference to the others, was singularly appropriate to the unhappy circumstances of the poor author; the verse, "Princes have persecuted me without a cause," reading, "Printers have persecuted me without a cause." Campbell's celebrated "Essay on Miracles" appeared in one of the advertisements as Campbell's "Essay on Mangles." In newspaper articles of my own I have had the misfortune to see "the internal relations of the Church" converted into "the infernal relations of the Church," and people who "spoke the Gaelic language" were made to "smoke" it. I remember a great public demonstration that took place in a town in which I was residing at the time. After one or two unimportant speeches, a certain demagogue arose whose appearance was the signal for loud and enthusiastic cheering from the multitude. A party newspaper describing this, in the course of its gratulatory and fervid report, said that the vast concourse had "rent the air with their shouts."—*Once a Week*.

WEATHER FORECASTING.—Admiral Fitzroy, of the Meteorological Department, writes:—"As the hay-making season is beginning, and harvest will soon follow, with the usual anxieties among the agriculturalists about dry or rainy weather, may I ask you to remind so large a class of the community that by keeping a very brief but regular tracing of the barometer and thermometer on paper ruled in small squares (say the tenth of an inch in size), and noted only once a day—at about eight in the morning—much insight into coming change or continuance of weather may be easily obtained? Once a day gives a more useful line or trace than oftener, I find by practice, as its angles, with the squares, show states of atmosphere more uniformly and evidently. Air, like surface of water, is not moved, depressed, or raised suddenly, nor does it, after being so waved or undulating, regain a quiet, balanced, and nearly level condition at once. In useful connexion with these suggestions to farmers may be observed that there are sound reasons, in theory as well as practice, for saying that the veering of wind 'with the sun,' or 'right-handed,' as a sailor would say, foretells drier or better weather, and that its 'backing against the sun,' or 'left-handed,' indicates rain, or wind, or both together. The turn of the winds in Ireland, Scotland, or Cornwall is usually in advance of Midland English Counties and eastern coasts, from half a day to two days—a useful forerunner."

Money Market and Commercial Intelligence.

CITY, Tuesday Evening.

The demand for discount at the Bank of England has been pretty brisk throughout the week, but no change has been made in the official minimum. Various political causes had a depressing effect upon the price of the Funds. A fear that the armistice in Denmark may not be prolonged beyond the 26th, and a rumour as to the probable fall of the Cabinet on the Danish question, combined to bring the price of Consols during Monday down to 89½, the lowest price touched during two years, as the *Times* tells us. The closing prices yesterday were 90, 90½ for delivery, and 90½, 90½ for the account.

The report of the Ceylon Company, presented at the annual meeting to-day, states the profit for the twelve months to have amounted to 30,498*l.*, out of which a dividend is recommended at the rate of 10 per cent. per annum, with a bonus of 2½ per cent., making together 10*s.* 6*d.* per share. This, with the interim dividend paid in December, will absorb 14,358*l.*, leaving 10,000*l.* to be applied to a reserve fund, and 6,303*l.* to be carried forward. The 6,200 shares not yet allotted are to be offered to the existing proprietors at 2*l.* pm.

The prospectus of the Sardinian Company (Limited), has been issued; capital 100,000*l.* in 4,000 shares of 25*l.* each, one-half of which have already been subscribed. The object is stated to be to develop the resources of the island of Sardinia, which is now about to be intersected by railways. It is contemplated to enter into general trading, land, and mining operations, and arrangements have been made for the acquisition of several properties in the island.

BANK OF ENGLAND.

(From Friday's Gazette.)

An Account, pursuant to the Act 7th and 8th Victoria, cap. 32, for the week ending Wednesday, June 8.

ISSUE DEPARTMENT.	
Notes issued ..	£28,034,730
Government Debt ..	£11,015,100
Other Securities ..	£3,634,900
Gold Coin & Bullion ..	£13,384,730
	£28,034,730

BANKING DEPARTMENT.	
Proprietors' Capital ..	£14,558,000
Reserve ..	£8,273,750
Public Deposits ..	£8,748,510
Other Deposits ..	£11,906,204
Seven Day and other Bills ..	£494,285
	£39,035,749

GOVERNMENT SECURITIES.	
Government Securities ..	£11,072,267
Other Securities ..	£19,542,473
Notes ..	£7,762,610
Gold & Silver Coin ..	£663,999
	£39,035,749

June 9, 1864. M. MARSHALL, Chief Cashier.

HOLLOWAY'S OINTMENT AND PILLS.—HEALING NOT HARMFUL.—No application has met with the same universal approbation for curing all external ailments as that which this unguent has received. Skin sores, deep ulcers, fetid discharges, burns, blistered surfaces and many similar affections are at once soothed and put on the road to soundness by Holloway's Ointment. With his Ointment and his Pills the wealthy may save themselves much suffering, and the poor may help themselves to health, since these medicaments are reasonable in price and can be purchased in every hamlet. They have effected cures of stiff joints, swollen legs and ulcerated limbs, and opened out the prospect of a happy future after every hope of recovery had been given up.

Births, Marriages, and Deaths.

BIRTHS.

ETHERIDGE.—June 9, at Ramsgate, the wife of the Rev. B. C. Etheridge, of a son.
RICHARDSON.—June 13, at No. 5, Union-square, Islington, the wife of Mr. J. Richardson, of twins, still born.

MARRIAGES.

SCOTT-HARRIS.—May 21, at the Independent Chapel, Tattenhall, by the Rev. G. B. Scott, of Whitechurch, father of the bridegroom, assisted by the Rev. A. Wilson, B.A., of Spring-hill College, the Rev. G. F. Scott, B.A., missionary-designate in connection with the London Missionary Society to the island of Lifu, South Seas, to Lille, second surviving daughter of William Harris, Esq., of The Villa, Tattenhall, Cheshire.
LACY-MOORE.—May 29, at the Independent Chapel, Lombard-street, Newark, by the Rev. T. B. Attenborough, Mr. James Lacy, to Miss Mary Ann Moore.
HOOSON-JONES.—June 1, at Chorlton-road Chapel, Manchester, by the Rev. Mr. M'Fadyen, Mr. Joseph Hooson, of Manchester, to Emily, only daughter of Mr. G. Jones, Cateaton-street Lead Works.
HOULSTON-CUTHBERTSON.—June 2, at Islington, by the Rev. Henry Allon, Edward, eldest son of Thos. Houlston, Esq., of 13, Ellington-street and Paternoster-row, to Miriam, daughter of Francis Cuthbertson, Esq., of 34, Arundel-square, Islington.
ATTER-KEMP.—June 5, at the Independent Chapel, Lombard-street, Newark, Mr. Samuel Atter, to Miss Jane Kemp.
SCRIMSHAW-CURTIS.—June 5, at the Independent Chapel, Lombard-street, Newark, by the Rev. T. B. Attenborough, Mr. John Scrimshaw, to Miss Ann Greaves Curtis.
GILBERT-STAFFORD.—June 5, at Friar-lane Chapel, Leicester, Mr. George Gilbert, Earl Shilton, to Miss Mary Ann Masters, second daughter of Mr. George Stafford, Leicester.
MORRIS-DORE.—June 7, at Camberwell, by the Rev. C. Stanford, Mr. J. Morris, of 15, Warner-road, to Charlotte Mary, only daughter of the late Rev. J. Dore, of Ashburton, Devon.
WALTON-GILES.—June 7, at Rusholme-road Chapel, Manchester, by the Rev. W. Smith, William Walton, druggist, to Fanny, third daughter of Mr. Robert Giles, both of Manchester.
ASHWORTH-GRUNDY.—June 7, at the Congregational Chapel, Chesham-hill, Manchester, by the Rev. G. W. Conder, Mr. W. Ashworth, to Elizabeth, youngest daughter of the late Samuel Grundy, Esq., solicitor, Bury.
SCRUTTON-CAMPBELL.—June 8, at Horton-lane Chapel, Bradford, Alexander, third son of Thomas Scrutton, Esq., of Canton-place, East India-road, London, to Janet Lang, second daughter of the Rev. James R. Campbell, D.D., of Bradford, Yorkshire.
COULSON-BOLTON.—June 8, at Kingland Congregational Church, by the Rev. T. W. Aveling, Mr. A. H. Coulson, jun., of Oswestry, to Annie, second daughter of the late Edward J. Bolton, Esq., of Shacklewell. No cards.
EVANS-COOPER.—June 8, at the Welsh Presbyterian Chapel, Llangollen, by the Rev. D. Charles Davies, M.A., London, D. Norman Evans, Esq., formerly of Ruthin, to Anne, youngest daughter of the late Ebenezer Cooper, Esq., of Llangollen. No cards.
MITCHELL-HARROP.—June 8, at the Independent Chapel, Glossop, by the Rev. T. Atkin, Mr. Samuel Mitchell, card-maker, Leeds, to Mrs. Harrop, of Glossop.
GOTCH-WHITAKER.—June 9, at the Baptist Chapel, Bratton, by the Rev. Dr. Gotch, of Bristol, father of the bridegroom, assisted by the Rev. Hugh Anderson, Mr. William Hepburn Gotch, of Bratton, Wiltshire, to Anna Jane, eldest daughter of Mr. Joshua Whitaker, of the same place.
HYDE-RATCLIFFE.—June 9, at the Independent Chapel, Marple Bridge, by the Rev. J. W. Benson, assisted by the Rev. T. G. Potter, of Buxton, Mr. Thomas Hyde, of Holly Vale, Mellor, to Lucy, eldest daughter of Mr. Samuel Mellor, of the same place.
SIMPSON-JEFFERSON.—June 9, at the Congregational Chapel, Market Weighton, by the Rev. S. Jones, Mr. Richard Simpson, to Eliza M., second daughter of Mr. R. Jefferson, surgeon.
SHARP-GRIMWADE.—June 9, at Tacket-street Chapel, Ipswich, by the Rev. G. B. Johnson, of Edgbaston, uncle of the bride, Risdon D. Sharp, Esq., of Christchurch, Hants, solicitor, to Fanny Maria, eldest daughter of Edward Grimwaide, Esq., of Norton House, Ipswich.
SHIPMAN-STEVENSON.—June 9, at the Archdeacon-lane Chapel, Leicester, Mr. T. K. Shipman, to Annie, eldest daughter of Mr. Thomas Stevenson, both of that town.
BAKER-BALL.—June 13, at Lady-lane Chapel, Leeds, by the Rev. Mathias T. Myers, Mr. Jonas Baker, to Miss Caroline Ball, all of Leeds.
EDWARDS-LOCKHART.—At the Tabernacle, Dunstable, by the Rev. W. R. Noble, of Greenwich, the Rev. W. H. Edwards, of Welford, Northamptonshire, to Elizabeth Martha, eldest daughter of Edward Lockhart, Esq., of Dunstable.

DEATHS.

STEVENSON.—May 26, Agnes, youngest daughter of the late Mr. W. Stevenson, Shakespere-street, Nottingham, aged seventeen.
MILLIGAN.—June 2, in his forty-second year, Thomas Milligan, Esq., Bradford.
GOULD.—June 2, at Christchurch, aged seventy-eight, Mr. C. Gould, late of Lytchett, near Poole.
HARGREAVES.—June 5, John, the only and beloved son of the Rev. James Hargreaves, of Morcombelake. "His end was perfect peace."
GOODCHILD.—June 5, at Prospect-place, Undercliff, near Bradford, in the thirty-fifth year of her age, Eliza Ann, the beloved wife of Mr. James Goodchild, late of South Cliff Cottage, Scarborough.
ASQUITH.—June 6, at Sutton Mill, in his fifty-third year, Mr. Charles Asquith, a valued deacon of the Baptist church, Sutton-in-Craven, Yorkshire.
RICHARDS.—June 8, at his residence, Forest-hill, Bideford, after a short illness, and very deeply lamented, Samuel Richards, Esq., in his fifty-fourth year.
HERIOT.—June 8, at 29, Leighton-road, Kentish-town, Mr. J. J. Heriot, aged sixty-four.
MCALL.—June 12, in her twenty-ninth year, after a life of Christian devotedness, and in the fulness of hope and peace, Margaret Jane, eldest daughter of the Rev. Samuel McAll, Principal of Hackney Theological Seminary.

Markets.

CORN EXCHANGE, LONDON, Monday, June 13.

Although the supply of English wheat this morning was small, it did not meet with a really sale, as factors commenced by demanding rather higher rates. It was, however, ultimately cleared off at the full prices of last Monday. There has been only a retail trade for foreign to-day, and prices remain unaltered. Barley a slow sale at former quotations. Beans and peas firm, without change in value. The return shows a very moderate arrival of foreign oats since last Monday, the greater portion of which arrived in the early part of last week. Owing to the scarcity of supplies the trade has been firm to-day, and we quote prices rather better than on this day week.

BREAD.—The prices of wheaten bread in the metropolis are from 6½d to 7d; household ditto, 5d to 6d.

BUTCHERS' MEAT. ISLINGTON, Monday, June 13.
The total imports of foreign stock into London last week amounted to 12,207 head. In the corresponding week in 1863 we received 9,513; in 1862, 5,585; in 1861, 9,083; in 1860, 9,764; in 1859, 4,574; and in 1858, 5,229 head. There was a full average supply of each kind of foreign stock on sale in to-day's market; but its general quality was very middling. Sales progressed slowly, at about stationary prices. Compared with Monday last the arrivals of beasts from our own grazing districts were only moderate, but they were quite equal to the demand. From Scotland the receipts were seasonably good, viz., 462 Scots and crosses from Fifeshire and East Lothian, and 196 from Aberdeen. The show of Irish beasts was limited. All breeds met a dull inquiry, at last week's decline in the quotations, the general top figure being 4s 8d per 8lbs. From Norfolk, Suffolk, Essex, and Cambridgeshire, we received 2,000 Scots, shorthorns and crosses; from other parts of England, 600 various breeds; from Scotland, 658 Scots and crosses; and from Ireland, 80 oxen and heifers. The show of sheep was seasonably good, both as to number and quality. The mutton trade was in a sluggish state at last Monday's current. The general top price for Downs and half-breeds was 5s. per 8lbs. Good and prime lambs were in steady request at late rates. Prices ranged from 6s to 7s per 8lbs. We have to report a slow inquiry for calves, the supply of which was moderate, at Thursday's decline in value. The sale for pigs was very inactive, on former terms.

Per 8lbs. to sink the Offal.

	s. d.	s. d.		s. d.	s. d.
Inf. coarse beasts.	3	2 to 3	6	Prime Southdown	4 10 to 5 0
Second quality	3	8	4 0	Lambs	0 0 7 0
Prime large oxen.	4	2	4 4	Lge. coarse calves	4 0 4 8
Prime Scots, &c.	4	6	4 8	Prime small	4 10 5 0
Coarse inf. sheep.	3	6	3 10	Large hogs	3 6 4 0
Second quality	4	0	4 4	Meatam. porkers	4 2 4 6
Pr. coarse woolled	4	6	4 10		

NEWGATE AND LEADENHALL, Monday, June 13.
The supply of meat on sale at these markets is very moderate. Generally speaking, the trade is heavy, at drooping prices.

Per 8lbs. by the carcass.

	s. d.	s. d.		s. d.	s. d.
Inferior beef	2	10 to 3	0	Small pork	4 2 to 4 6
Middling ditto	3	2	3 4	Inf. mutton	3 8 3 10
Prime large do.	3	6	3 8	Middling ditto	4 0 4 2
Do. small do.	3	10	4 10	Prime ditto	4 4 4 6
Large pork	3	8	4 4	Veal	3 10 4 8

Lamb, 5s 4d to 6s 4d.

PROVISIONS, Monday, June 13.—The arrivals last week from Ireland were 1,554 firkins butter, and 3,384 bales of soap; and from foreign ports 16,521 casks of butter, and 2,107 bales and 663 boxes of bacon. The demand for Irish butter is still very limited, but the market was steady, as the shipments continue very moderate. Finest Connemla sold at 96s on board, 98s landed; Corks, first 66s, and thirds 86s, landed. Foreign in good supply; prices declined 4s per cwt.; best Dutch, 82s to 84s. The bacon market ruled very firm, and the supply not being quite equal to the demand, prices advanced fully 1s. per cwt. Best Waterford sold at 65s on board.

POTATOES.—BOROUGH AND SPITALFIELDS, Monday, June 13.—The supplies of old potatoes on sale at these markets have been very large, and the trade for them rules heavy. A few superior parcels have changed hands at 60s; but the more general top quotation is 50s per ton. Inferior produce is selling as low as 20s per ton. With new potatoes the market has been but moderately supplied; nevertheless, a steady business is passing in most qualities, and prices range from 7s to 10s per cwt. The import into London last week was very small.

SEEDS, Monday, June 13.—The seed market remains quiet. During the past ten days there has been some continental inquiry for low-priced sorts of red cloverseed, and a few parcels have changed hands, but the quantity obtainable is very limited. White seed is rather firm, with little offering. Trefoil meets a good inquiry, but is held beyond buyers' present views.

WOOL, Monday, June 13.—Since our last report, a very limited business has been transacted in all kinds of English wool, and, in some instances, prices have further receded ½d per lb. For export scarcely any business is doing, and the supply is on the increase.

COALS, Monday, June 13.—Market firm, without change from the rates of last day. South Hettons 17s 6d, Haswell 17s 6d, East Hartlepool 17s 6d, Hugh Hall 17s, Kelloe 17s, Trammelgate 16s, Cas op 17s, Hartley 16s, Holywell 16s 6d, Braddys, 17s. Fresh arrivals, 51; left from last day, 6.—Total, 57. Ships at sea, 140.

OIL, Monday, June 13.—Generally speaking the oil trade is dull. Lined oil is quoted at 39s per cwt. on the spot. Foreign refined rape is held at 46s. brown 43s, Cochin coconut 41, fine palm 36½ to 38½, and Colonial sperm 74½ to 75½. French spirits of turpentine 72s per cwt. on the spot. American refined petroleum is quoted at 2s 1½d to 2s 2d per gallon.

TALLOW, Monday, June 13.—The tallow trade is dull to-day, and prices are the same as on Monday last. P.Y.C. is quoted at 40s 6d per cwt. on the spot. Town tallow commands 38s 9d per cwt. net cash. Rough fat is selling at 2s. 0½d per 8lbs.

Advertisements.



OSTEO-EIDON.

MESSRS. GABRIEL'S INVENTION.

GABRIEL'S Self-adhesive PATENT Indestructible MINERAL TEETH and FLEXIBLE GUMS, without palates, springs, or wires, and without operation, are indestructible, and warranted for mastication or articulation, at half the usual cost.

MESSRS. GABRIEL,

THE OLD-ESTABLISHED DENTISTS,

27, HARLEY-STREET, CAVENDISH-SQUARE;

34, LUDGATE-HILL (over Benson's, Silversmith), LONDON

134, DUKE-STREET, LIVERPOOL; and

65, NEW-STREET, BIRMINGHAM.

AMERICAN MINERAL TEETH, from Four to Seven and Ten to Fifteen Guineas per Set, best in Europe, warranted. Gabriel's Practical "Treatise on the Teeth" gratis.

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